FEDCO TREES 2007

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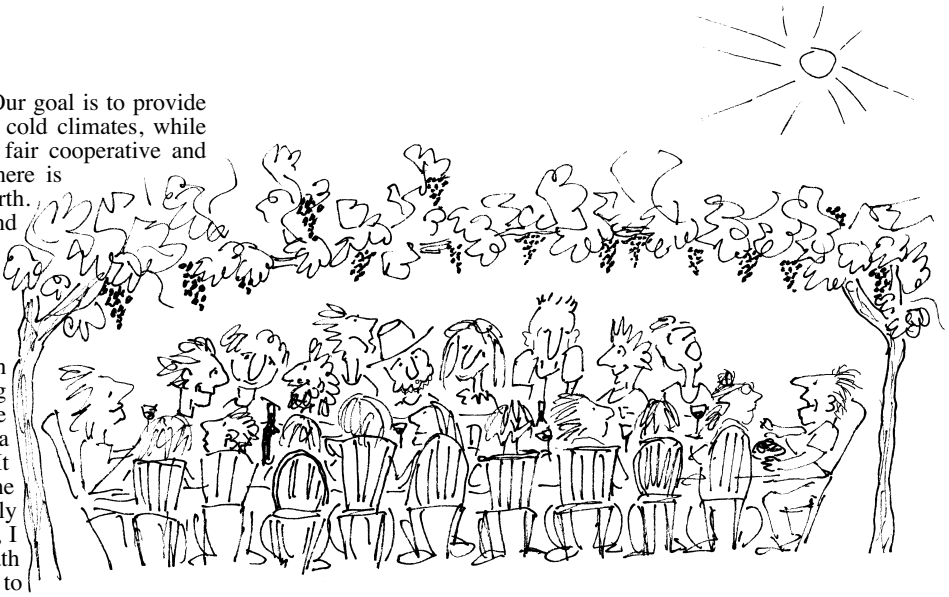
Welcome to Fedco Trees' 23nd annual order. Our goal is to provide the hardiest and healthiest plants available for cold climates, while supporting small-scale local agriculture and a fair cooperative and responsible workplace. As far as we know, there is nothing else like Fedco Trees anywhere on earth. Accept no imitations! Our no-frills operation and volume discounts help keep plants affordable. Consider ordering in a group with co-workers, friends or neighbors to further minimize your costs.

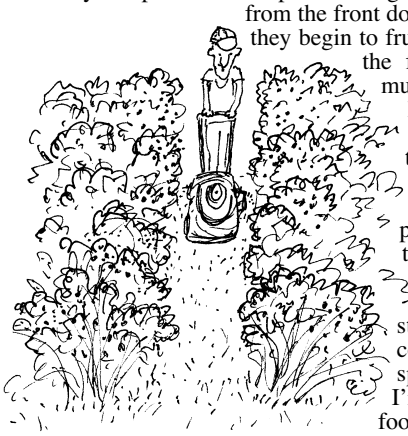


Over the years we have been reducing the lawn at our place in Palermo to one rather long meandering path. Mowing the lawn has become less about open space and more about taking a journey. The path loops around the house. It winds past the vegetable and flower gardens, the small fruits, through the orchard, and eventually back again. Whether it requires mowing or not, I travel that route a few times a week. The "path without destination" is the perfect opportunity to check out what's going on. What's in bloom? What's ready to pick? What needs pruning or who's attacking what?

The path wraps around the back of the house and circles the grape arbor. Every summer seven vines cover the 15 x 40' structure. In early August we host our annual Sunday lunch under the arbor. We set up a 30' table and round up a bunch of chairs. For two years running we've had near-perfect weather. Last August there were 28 of us. We sat down together at a bit after 2:00 and the last guests pulled out of the driveway about 7:30.

We have only one "rule." After you go to fetch more food at the side table, you're supposed to sit in a new spot. What results is a series of conversations that mix and flow around the table as different combinations of guests chat in the shade under the vines and the dangling fruit. There's a simultaneous peacefulness and buzz to the afternoon that is quite intoxicating. I think the grape-arbor party epitomizes our plan for the yard and our hope for the earth itself.

Recently we put in a new patch of highbush blueberries a few feet from the front door. That will be handy when they begin to fruit and it will be beautiful in the fall. The lilacs now cover much of the area between the house and the road. The daylilies and roses jazz up the area by the well. I can't help but notice the undulating shapes of the crabapples nearly every time I walk to the barn. Although we've squeezed in about all the fruit trees we want, we still find space to add a couple more somewhere each spring. More than anything, I'm amazed by how much food and beauty you can create on a small piece of land.



I love watching our yard become a haven—for wildlife, for us and for our friends. I enjoy waking up to the deafening sound of birds on summer mornings. I like being surrounded by the fragrant smells, incredible shapes and vibrant colors of the plants themselves. I love to pick dinner less than 100 feet away, whether it's in the garden or the root cellar. I don't think I'll be throwing out our lawn mower any time soon, but I do know I'm enjoying the path.

We do special orders. If you wish to buy large quantities of any item, larger or smaller plants than we are listing, rooted cuttings, or unusual items we're not listing, please write with particulars.

All of our trees are unconditionally guaranteed. If your tree or shrub does not grow to your satisfaction during the first growing season, please let us know! We'll send a refund or you can order a replacement the following year. We don't have a huge staff or a fancy set of offices. If we don't respond quickly, don't hesitate to remind us; we are in business to serve you. Enjoy the catalog!

Please share your experiences growing plants with us. Many of our selections originated from your suggestions. If you know of something growing near you we should be offering, or if you are interested in growing for us, please write to us. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and ideas. Thank you for your support.

John Bunker & Susan Kiralis

Check out our website: **www.fedcoseeds.com**
and click on Fedco Trees.

You may order online. We also post color photos of most of our trees, shrubs and perennials and a wide range of information. If you have ideas for what we should include, please let us know.

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Phone 207-873-7333

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We guarantee the quality of our trees and plants, and warrant that all items we offer are fully satisfactory. If you are dissatisfied for any reason, we will replace the item or refund the purchase price.

Please inspect your order upon receipt and use the correction sheet to notify us immediately of any problems. Because good results depend upon weather, soil and cultural practices over which we have no control, we limit our liability in all instances to the purchase price. The liability of Fedco Seeds, Inc., for breach of warranty, or any loss or damages arising out of the purchase or use of our products, including loss or damages resulting from any negligence whatsoever on our part, or strict liability in tort, shall be limited to the purchase price. By acceptance of the merchandise, the buyer acknowledges that the limitations and disclaimers herein described are conditions of sale, and that they constitute the entire agreement between the parties regarding any warranty or liability. Claims for any defects in Fedco's products should be presented to Fedco as soon as possible after discovery. Failure to assert claims within 30 days after discovery renders this warranty null and void.

Ordering Information —

The order forms - Order items from this catalog on a Trees 2007 order form, in the center of the catalog; you may submit as many pages as you need, either photocopies, forms downloaded from our website or printouts mimicking our format. To encourage you to participate in a group order and to order early, we give discounts.

Payment with check, money order or credit card must accompany all orders. We request that all orders under $25 pay by check or MO. Make your check out to Fedco. We accept Visa and MasterCard and will charge your credit card when we receive your order. We will bill or refund you for any adjustments as each order is completed.

- **Mail** your order: **Fedco Trees, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903-0520.** Keep a copy of your order for your records. To confirm receipt of your order, enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard.
- **Online**: go to **fedcoseeds.com** and click on Fedco Trees.
- **Fax** your order: (207) 872-8317. Fax orders pay a $2 handling fee.
- **We do not take phone orders.**

Group orders: mail us at one time all the order forms from your group members with one payment and we will ship all the orders, packaged individually, to one address. The group total earns the discount. Use the front of an order form for a group address and payment cover sheet. We recommend making a copy of each group member's order before you send the batch to us. We are not yet equipped to take group orders online.

Maine sales tax - for **Maine residents and pickups only.** Please add 5% sales tax.

We charge **$10 for handling if you adjust your order**. Additions, deletions and cancellations are costly for us to process. You are welcome to place as many separate orders as you wish.

We will offer surplus for sale at the Tree Sale. Sometimes we have stock left over after the Tree Sale, but never after May 15th, when we shut down completely and go home to plant.

Our Planting Guide
is incorporated into the catalog. **Save your catalog** for planting and cultural instructions. We will not send planting guides with orders unless you request them.

Our Variety Descriptions –

All trees and plants are bare-rooted (except where noted), and even a large order can fit into a station wagon. All fruit and nut trees are well-rooted, 1/4-7/8" in diameter.

Fruit trees are grafted onto the hardiest standard-sized rootstocks available, except where noted. Standard trees are stronger rooted, hardier, and longer lived than dwarf or semi-dwarf trees. If you want a smaller tree, keep it pruned.

For fruit trees and berries, the **exact dates of peak ripeness** will vary from place to place.

The **zone hardiness rating** will aid you in determining whether a plant will be hardy for you. The average minimum temperature in your area determines your zone. See the chart below. Apple descriptions have minimum *and* maximum zones because apples typically need cold climates to produce the best fruit. Your own soil conditions, micro-climate and topography will be equally important in determining the best varieties for you.

Please note **pollination** requirements for fruits, nuts and berries. Some plants are self-pollinating, others require a second plant for pollination, and others require a plant of a second variety.

We strive to give you accurate information about all the plants we sell. If you notice inaccuracies, please let us know.

John writes the tree and shrub descriptions and Susan writes tender bulb and perennial descriptions.

Statements about medicinal uses of plants have not been evaluated by the FDA, and should not be used for the diagnosis, treatment, cure or prevention of any ailment. Before using or ingesting any medicinal plant, consult a healthcare practitioner familiar with botanical medicine.

USDA Hardiness Zone	Average Minimum Temperature
2	-50˚ to -40˚
3	-40˚ to -30˚
4	-30˚ to -20˚
5	-20˚ to -10˚
6	-10˚ to 0˚

Discounts & Deadlines —

Discount deadline is **Friday, December 8, 2006.** Sorry, no volume discounts on later orders. Discounts apply only to orders shipped to one address.

over $200	10% discount
over $400	15% discount

Special discounts may be available for very large orders; please email trees@fedcoseeds.com or call (207) 873-7333 for a quote.

We fill all orders on a first-come first-served basis.

Final order deadline is **March 9, 2007.**

Shipping & Pickup —

We ship most orders **via UPS beginning in April**, and continue for about 10 days, timed according to planting zone. Our last regular ship date is around April 16. We will have a special late ship date around May 3. We do not ship at other times.

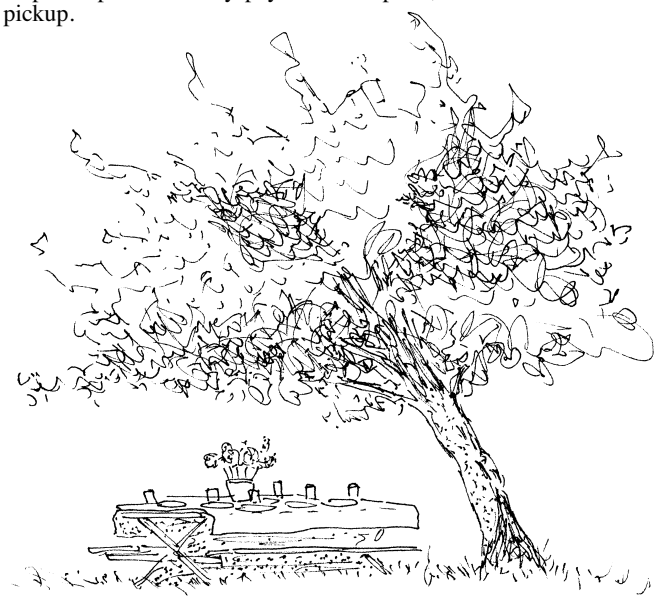
Shipping charges: All orders to be shipped pay a $5 box charge in addition to shipping. Shipping is 10% with the following minimums.

area	minimum charge
New England	$7.00
NY, NJ and PA	$9.00
all other states	$14.00

We ship to Alaska via Priority Mail; include 20% for shipping (minimum $14) and supply a postal address.

If you require a particular ship date during our regular shipping time or for shipment around May 3 **we charge an additional $15** to cover our extra handling costs.

Pick your order up at our warehouse in Clinton, Maine, during our annual **Tree Sale**. Fri and Sat, April 27–28, are reserved for preorder customers. The public is welcome on Friday and Saturday, May 4–5. Sale times are 9:00 am–3:00 pm each day. We recommend that preorder customers come on April 27 or 28, shop at the full Tree Sale and avoid the crowds. We will send you a pickup reminder and map in April. You may pay a 50% deposit, with the balance due at pickup.



VARIETY NAME · SEASON OF RIPENESS · AG. STATION TEST NUMBER · PARENTAGE

Rummy Plum Mid-Late Summer 3.65-10[9] (*P. americana* x *p. babylonia*) DoD introduction, Arlington, VA, 2003. Oversized pentagonal to squarish with yellowish-purple skin and green flesh. Tart mealy fruit. Abundant spring bloom holds promise of large easy-to-harvest yield. However, even after dedicating large sums to pest eradication and protection, fruit generally fails to ripen, rotting on the ground and leaving a festering mess. Z4-8.

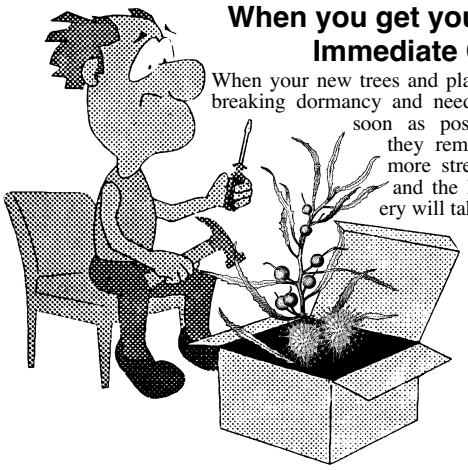
2087 Rummy Plum, $19.00 — ITEM NUMBER · PRICE · ZONE RANGE

BOTANICAL NAME · COMMON NAME · MATURE HEIGHT x WIDTH · INTRODUCTION DATE

***Sorbus rubrisoxus* Big Papi** 121' x 47' Seattle, 1992. Large robust tree, reliable producer, a hit in almost all seasons. Seedling came from the Dominican Republic to Mariner farm. Introduced in Boston in 2003 after some improvement in Minnesota. Has become a New England favorite. Z5.

ME Grown. (6'+ beefy plants) ← SIZE OF PLANT STOCK

7564 Big Papi, $10.50 — GROWN BY FEDCO GROWERS CO-OP · ZONE HARDINESS RATING



When you get your order: Immediate Care

When your new trees and plants arrive they are breaking dormancy and need to be planted as soon as possible. The longer they remain unplanted, the more stressed they become and the longer their recovery will take.

DO NOT ALLOW ROOTS TO DRY OUT AT ALL!!!

If You Intend To Plant Trees & Shrubs Within 48 Hours

Leave the plastic wrapping around the root ball. Add some water to remoisten the packing material and store your trees/plants in a cool shaded place like a shed, barn or cellar. Avoid heat and sunlight.

If You Cannot Plant Your Trees Within 48 Hours

You may keep plants for a week or two by following one of two temporary measures and continuing to water trees when they need it.

1) Remove the plastic wrap around the root ball. Store plants in a cool shaded place. Wrap the roots in wet shredded newspaper or sawdust, packing firmly to eliminate air pockets. Water thoroughly.

2) "Heel in" your plants. Dig a trench or turn back an appropriate amount of earth and bury roots; tamp firmly to remove air pockets. Water thoroughly.

Asparagus

Open up asparagus roots and store dry and uncovered in a cool shaded place.

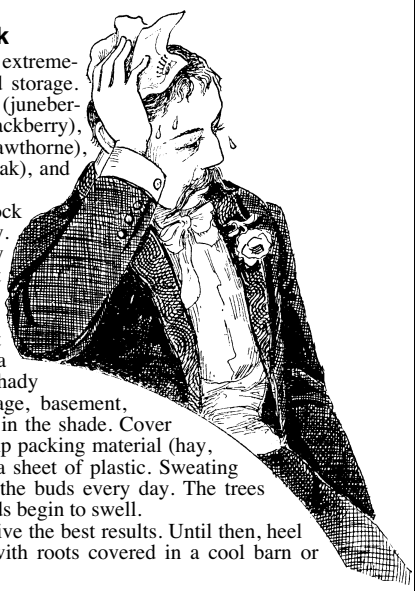
Strawberries

Refrigerate strawberry plants until you are ready to plant them.

Perennials

Open bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not squishy or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40˚) location for a short time. See page 46 for details.

Sweating Nursery Stock



Some trees and shrubs become extremely dormant during refrigerated storage. These include: Amelanchier (juneberry), Betula (birch), Celtis (hackberry), Cercis (redbud), Crataegus (hawthorne), Morus (mulberry), Quercus (oak), and Potentilla (cinquefoil).

Sweating nursery stock ensures breaking of dormancy. The easiest way to force any tree to break bud is to pot it and set it in a greenhouse or polyhouse. After the tree begins to leaf out, transplant it outdoors. If you don't have a greenhouse, lay the trees in a shady place, 45-70˚, such as a garage, basement, barn, greenhouse, or outdoors in the shade. Cover the whole plant with very damp packing material (hay, newspaper, etc.) followed by a sheet of plastic. Sweating will take several days; check the buds every day. The trees are ready to plant when the buds begin to swell.

Warm May weather will give the best results. Until then, heel your trees in, or store them with roots covered in a cool barn or garage.

TREE PLANTING AND CARE

Choosing a Site for Fruit Trees and Berries

The best sites for fruit crops have well-drained fertile soils, protection from wind, good air drainage, and full sun. A gentle slope and six to eight hours of full sun per day is ideal. Good air flow will moderate frosts and fungal disease. If possible, avoid "frost pockets."

Sunny south- or west-facing slopes are not advisable for less hardy varieties. These slopes tend to warm up before the danger of frost has passed. Trees may flower prematurely and then be damaged by frost, causing loss of fruit. South and west slopes may also have widely fluctuating early spring temperatures that can damage less hardy trees.

Soil pH for fruit trees should be between 5.5 and 8.0, towards the lower end for apples, the higher end for peaches, and in the middle for others. Fruit species have optimal space requirements. See chart on next page.

Do not plant trees where power lines will interfere with them.

Fall Preparation or Spring Initial Feeding for Fruit Trees

If you're interested in preparing locations for your trees this fall, or for feeding newly planted fruit trees, the following amendment recipe should address most sites in the eastern U.S., which tend to be acidic, and moderate to low in calcium and phosphorus. You can apply this mix as a mulch to your newly planted tree in the spring. To order any of these products, refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of our Seed catalog or website.

Deluxe Method

Without digging the hole, cover an area 4-6' in diameter with:

- 5 lbs gypsum or Hi-Cal lime
- 5 lbs colloidal phosphate (short-term calcium and phosphorus)
- 5 lbs azomite (long-term minerals and trace minerals)
- 5 lbs granite meal or greensand (for improved soil texture)
- 2-3 lbs menafee humates (aids mineral and rock-powder breakdown)
- 2-3 lbs greenstone (aids plants in nutrient uptake)

For building high levels of humus, also add:

- 2 lbs alfalfa meal
- 2 lbs bone meal
- 2 lbs kelp meal
- 2 lbs blood meal
- 100 lbs compost (1/8 yard)
- BioDynamic preps (optional)

Cover with a 3-4" mulch of lawn clippings, leaves or "brush" chips, which will smother the sod, conserve moisture, prevent leaching, and provide a habitat for soil organisms to break down the recipe. In the spring, pull back the mulch and dig your tree hole, incorporating the mineral supplements and compost into the backfill.

Simpler Method

Forgo the soil amendments and simply pile 1-2 wheelbarrow loads of compost on each planting-hole site. If you live by the ocean, add a couple of wheelbarrows of seaweed. Then cover with mulch. In the spring, pull back the mulch and plant your tree, incorporating the compost into the hole as you dig.

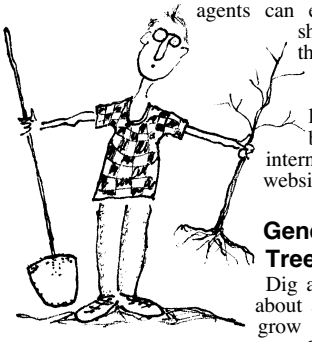
Feeding older fruit trees

Cover the surface of the ground out to the drip line with the same materials listed above. For larger trees (five years and older) increase the mineral amount to 10-15 pounds each. For ancient trees you can add up to 25 lbs of each mineral in a ring beneath the drip line. Mulch as described above.

Plant Spacing of Fruit Trees and Berries

	between plants	between rows
Apples, Semi-dwarf	15'	15'
Apples, Standard	25-30'	25-30'
Asparagus	1-2'	4'
Blackberries	3-4'	6-12'
Blueberries, highbush	3-6'	8-10'
Blueberries, lowbush	1'	1'
Filazel	4'	hedge
Grapes	8'	8-10'
Kiwis	10'	10'
Nut trees - orchard	35'	35'
Nut trees - forest	20'	20'
Pears, Asian Pears	20'	20'
Raspberries	2'	6-12'
Stone Fruit	15-20'	15-20'
Strawberries	see instructions	
Sweet Cherries	25'	25'

The basics of tree care are outlined here and are designed to get you going. Obviously we can't tell you everything you need to know in a few pages. Additional information, such as location and soil preferences, about specific plants is in the item descriptions. Reading, observation, trial and error, and talking with other growers and extension agents can expand your knowledge of trees and shrubs. A soil test is useful in determining the specific needs of your site.



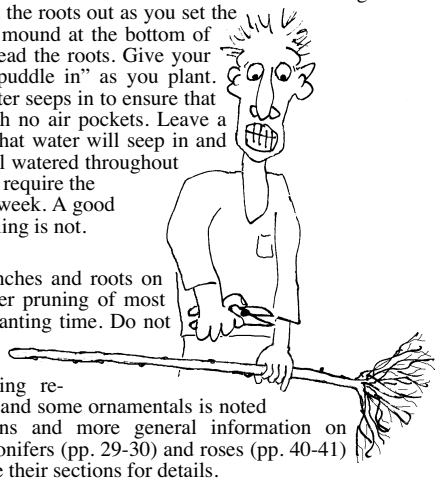
Consult the Fedco Seeds catalog, Organic Growers Supply section, book list for some recommended reference books, or look for information on the internet. There are many useful links at our website, www.fedcoseeds.com.

General Planting Directions for Trees and Shrubs

Dig a large hole, at least twice as wide and about as deep as the root system. Most roots grow laterally and need plenty of room to spread out. Your trees will benefit if the hole is at least 3' wide. Loosen up the soil at the bottom of the hole and especially around the sides. For fruit trees, you may add a 3-pound bag of our planting mix (available from the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog), or well-aged compost and mineral fertilizers such as rock phosphate, but not manure or other nitrogen sources. We add about a coffee-can of rock phosphate for each fruit tree. You may also add a handful of azomite at this time. Replace the topsoil around the roots where it will do the most good. If you situate non-fruit trees according to their requirements, there is no need to add any supplements to your soil. This is the best way to ensure that your plants will thrive for many years.

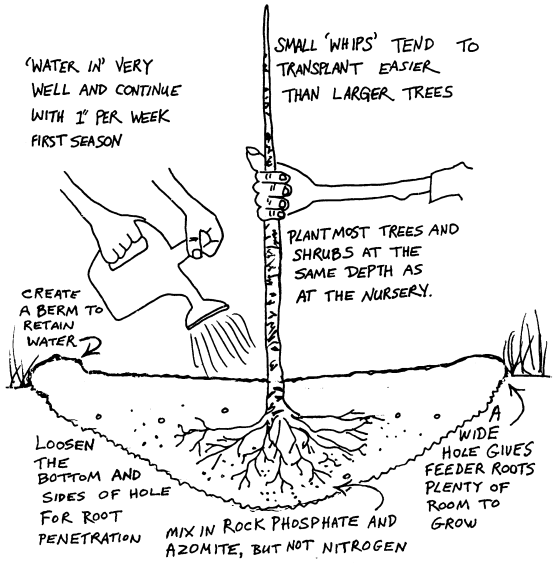
For best results plant on cool cloudy days in the early morning or late afternoon. Soak deciduous trees and shrubs for up to 24 hours before planting. Keep the roots from drying out. Even a few minutes in the sun and breeze can kill a tree or shrub. Keep them in a bucket of water as you plant.

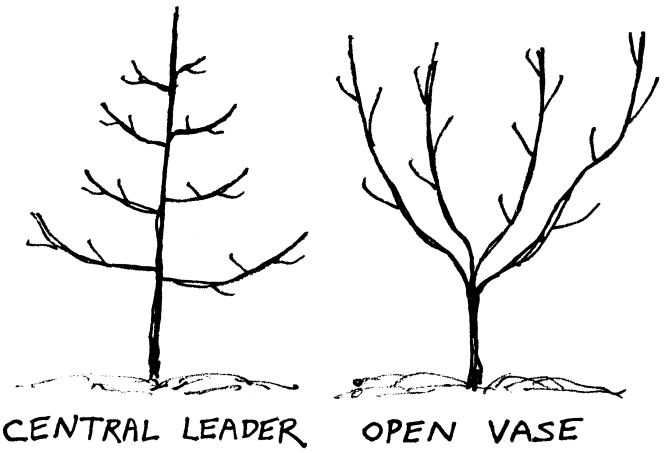
Generally you should plant trees and shrubs at the same depth that they grew in the nursery. Plant semi-dwarf or dwarf fruit trees with the graft 2" above ground level. Spread the roots out as you set the trees in the holes. Make a mound at the bottom of the hole over which to spread the roots. Give your trees plenty of water to "puddle in" as you plant. Wiggle the trunk as the water seeps in to ensure that the roots are settled in with no air pockets. Leave a berm around each tree so that water will seep in and not run off. Keep them well watered throughout the first summer. They will require the equivalent of 1-2" rain per week. A good soaking is effective; sprinkling is not.



Initial Pruning

Prune dead or injured branches and roots on all trees and shrubs. Further pruning of most trees is not necessary at planting time. Do not prune tops or prune or bend tap roots of nut trees. Specific preplanting pruning requirements for small fruits and some ornamentals is noted in their respective sections and more general information on pruning begins on p. 36. Conifers (pp. 29-30) and roses (pp. 40-41) require special pruning. See their sections for details.

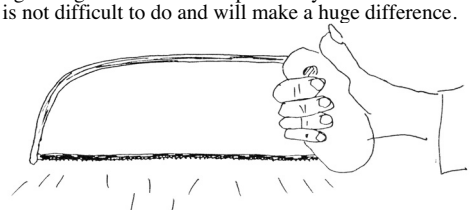

'WATER IN' VERY WELL AND CONTINUE WITH 1" PER WEEK FIRST SEASON
SMALL 'WHIPS' TEND TO TRANSPLANT EASIER THAN LARGER TREES
PLANT MOST TREES AND SHRUBS AT THE SAME DEPTH AS AT THE NURSERY.
CREATE A BERM TO RETAIN WATER
LOOSEN THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF HOLE FOR ROOT PENETRATION
MIX IN ROCK PHOSPHATE AND AZOMITE, BUT NOT NITROGEN
A WIDE HOLE GIVES FEEDER ROOTS PLENTY OF ROOM TO GROW



Pruning Fruit Trees

Avoid pruning young trees except to establish a basic shape. Pruning young trees delays bearing. On apple and pear trees, leave the central leader alone and let it grow. It's ok to cut off extra trunks and large branches. Always remove suckers or root shoots from fruit trees. On peaches and plums, the trees may want to develop 2-4 leaders, or an open-vase shape. Always prune just above a good strong bud that faces a direction you'd like your plant to grow.

Once the tree begins to bear you will want to prune annually. Good pruning brings sunlight to all parts of your tree. Maximum sunlight encourages more and higher-quality fruit. Sunlight also encourages fruit buds to form for next year's crop. A well-pruned tree will produce larger fruit and will tend toward more annual bearing. Good pruning discourages fungal diseases and promotes greater spray penetration. There's an old saying that a bird should be able to fly through your fruit tree. Any good book on growing fruit trees will provide you the information you need. Pruning is not difficult to do and will make a huge difference.



Most pruning should be done in late winter or early spring, although some say the best time to prune is when you have your clippers in your hand. We recommend a good-quality pair of hand shears and a lightweight pruning saw. You may also wish to invest in long-handled loppers, a pole pruner or a pole saw. Keep your pruning tools sharp for smooth, clean cuts.

Consult old and new books as well as orcharding articles and develop a system that works for you.

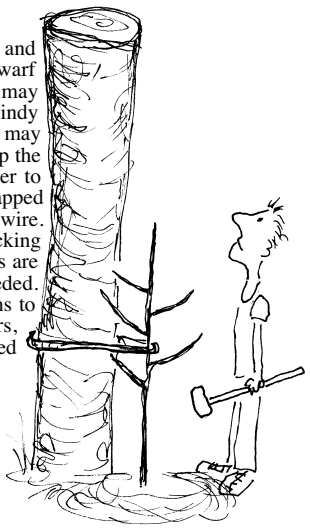
Weeping crabapples require special pruning. See p. 35 for instuctions.

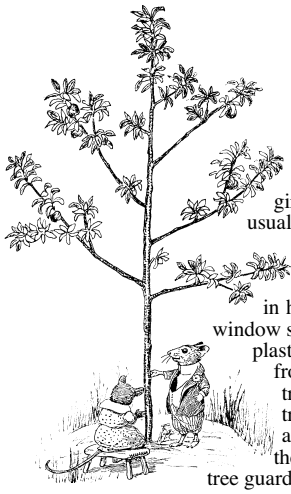
Mulch

Keep weeds and especially grass away from new trees and shrubs. Apply a 2-4" mulch of composted material, leaves, wood chips or hay out as far as the drip line. A $^{1}/_{2}$-1" topdressing of alfalfa meal beneath the mulch may substantially reduce transplant shock. Keep mulch back several inches from the tree trunks. We lay down cardboard or newspaper and spread mulch on top of it. Mulch encourages earthworms, holds moisture, keeps down weeds, insulates against excess heat and cold, aerates and loosens soils, builds humus and fertilizes feeder roots, 90% of which are within 6" of the surface.

Staking

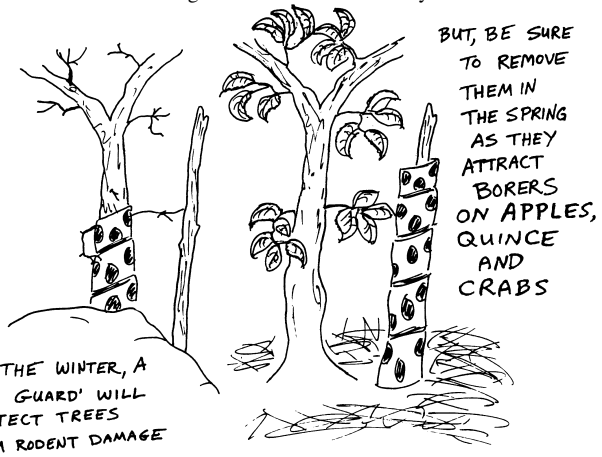
Newly planted standard-sized fruit trees and ornamental trees seldom need staking. Dwarf trees require staking. Semi-dwarfs may require staking. If your tree is in a very windy site or develops a leaning habit, staking may help. Drive a stout post near the tree. Wrap the tree trunk with a scrap of burlap or rubber to protect against abrasion. Secure the wrapped part of the tree to the post with string or wire. Tie tree somewhat loosely, as a slight rocking motion will encourage rooting. Once roots are well anchored, the stake may not be needed. Mark small trees with a stake with ribbons to warn operators of lawn mowers, tractors, cars, skidders and Bradley armored vehicles.





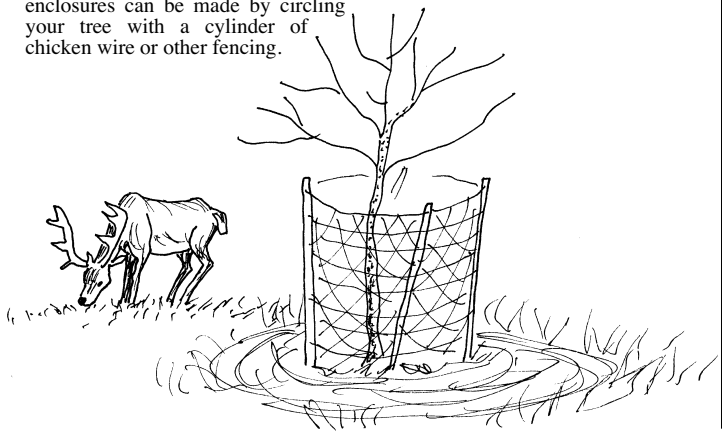
Mouse/Vole Protection

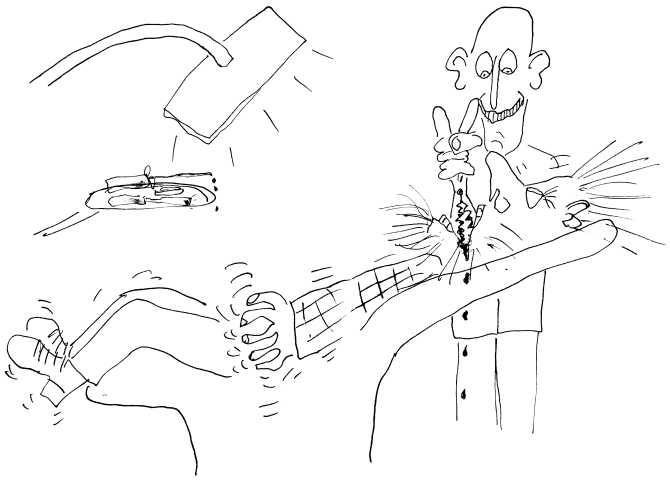
Fruit trees and ornamentals are sometimes girdled by mice or voles. Girdling will usually kill the tree or shrub. The danger is greatest in winter. Keep the grass mowed in the fall and remove large mulch piles from near the trunks. Rodents like to nest in hay more than in chip mulches. A wrap of window screening (Screen Saver, next column) or a plastic spiral tree guard will protect your tree from being girdled. If you use plastic spiral tree guards on apple, quince or crabapple trees, remove them from April to October, as they attract borers if left on the tree in the summer. You can leave plastic spiral tree guards on most other trees year-round.


BUT, BE SURE TO REMOVE THEM IN THE SPRING AS THEY ATTRACT BORERS ON APPLES, QUINCE AND CRABS
IN THE WINTER, A 'TREE GUARD' WILL PROTECT TREES FROM RODENT DAMAGE

Oh Dear, Deer!

The best deer protection is a collie in the yard. If you don't have a dog or if your orchard is too far from the house, an 8' sheep fence will work. Some people have good luck with electric fences. Small protective fence enclosures can be made by circling your tree with a cylinder of chicken wire or other fencing.

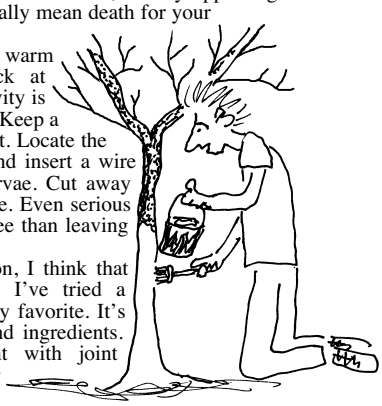




Beware of the Apple Borer !

In many parts of central and northern New England the roundheaded appletree borer (*Saperda candida*) is **the number one enemy** of young **apple**, **crabapple** and **quince** trees. If you are growing young apple trees in these locations, you must protect your trees from this pest. Farther south and north the borer *may* not be a pest. If you don't know if they are a problem in your area, check with any grower near you: they'll know. Otherwise, err on the side of caution. The borer does not endanger other fruit trees or ornamentals.

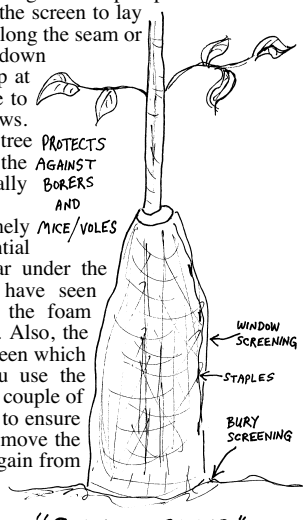
The borer beetle lays its eggs under the bark near the base of the tree. The developing larvae tunnel through the wood, eventually weakening the tree until it crumbles and falls over. The trouble sign is small deposits of orange sawdust, called frass, at the base of the tree, usually appearing in June or July. Left unchecked, borers usually mean death for your trees.



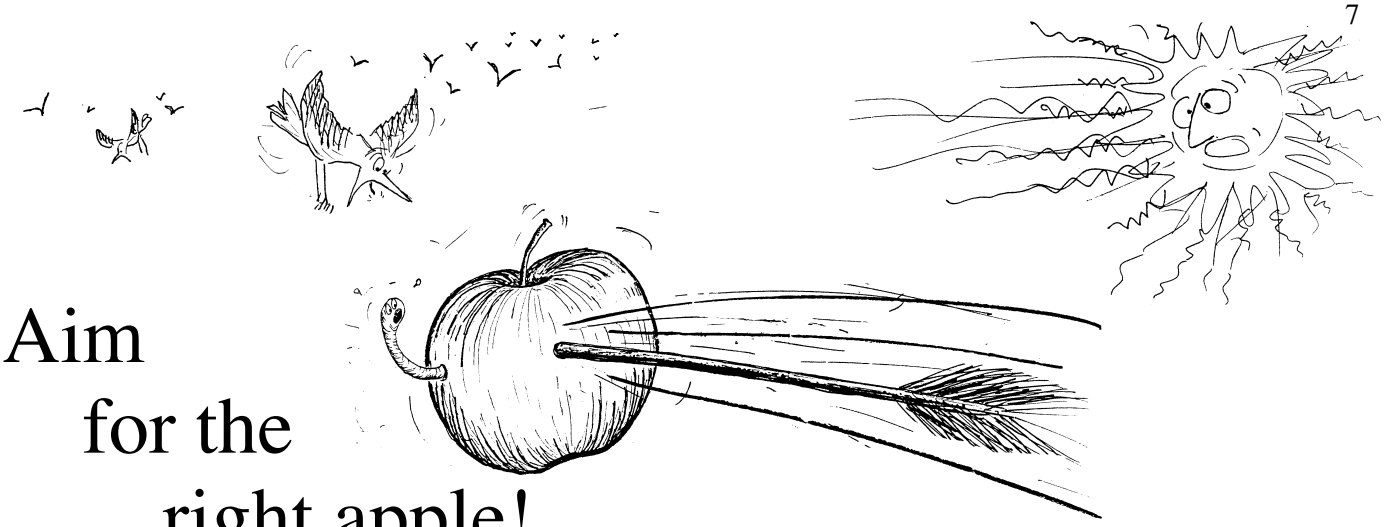
Borers thrive in shady moist warm environments. Keep grass back at least 6" from the tree base. Activity is most prevalent in June and July. Keep a lookout for the frass, the sawdust. Locate the hole or soft spot in the trunk and insert a wire until you locate and kill the larvae. Cut away soft, spongy pockets with a knife. Even serious carving is less harmful to the tree than leaving the larvae alive inside.

After years of experimentation, I think that painting is the best deterrent. I've tried a number of recipes and this is my favorite. It's easy and requires no hard-to-find ingredients. Mix white *interior* latex paint with joint compound. (The stuff you smear on sheet rock joints and nail holes—you can buy a small tub at any hardware store. Some exterior paint formulations contain ingredients that can harm the underlying phloem.) The consistency should be thick but still quite easy to paint, not glob on. Repaint periodically or each year as needed. This mix will help deter borers. It will also make for easy detection of any infestation you may have. Look for the frass! Using the paint method, you will also need to put some sort of screen or plastic rodent protector around the trunk during the winter months.

For many years I have used the homemade "screen saver" protector. Wrap window screening around the tree trunk, snug at the top to prevent the adult borer beetle from sneaking down behind the screen to lay eggs. Staple the screening at the top and along the seam or tie it with wire. Push the screening 1-2" down into the soil. (Optional: Smear Tangletrap at the top to increase the deterrent.) Be sure to loosen the screening as the tree grows. Because borers occasionally sting the tree *through* the screen where it touches the trunk, you should remove screen periodically look for signs of infestation.

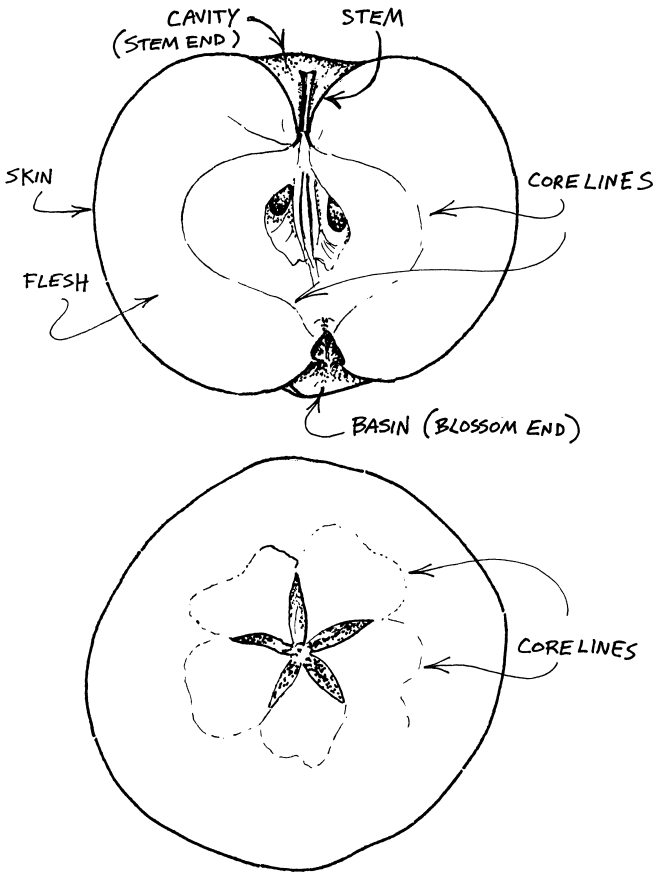


While the "screen saver" is extremely effective, it does have its own potential problems. For years I put a foam collar under the screen at the top of the protector. I have seen instances where the bark rotted under the foam collar causing severe damage to the tree. Also, the trunk will tend to stay moist under the screen which can ultimately damage the bark. If you use the screen saver, remove it from the tree for a couple of months in the spring and again in the fall to ensure healthy bark growth. In central Maine, remove the screen from March until early June and again from early October until just before snow fall.



Aim for the right apple!

Item	Name	Zones	Suitable for Coldest Spots	Season	Uses	Best apples for: All–Around	Fall Eating	Storage	Cooking	Pies	High Flavor	Cider
0045	Baldwin	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	●
0077	Black Oxford	4-5		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	●
0080	Blake	4-6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●	●	●
0103	Briggs Auburn	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	
0118	Calville Blanc d'Hiver	4-7		fall	dessert	●	●		●	●	●	●
0121	Canadian Strawberry	4-5		fall	all purpose	●	●			●	●	●
0162	Cole's Quince	4-7		summer	all purpose	●				●		
0170	Cortland	4-5		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			
0176	Cox's Orange Pippin	4-6		fall	dessert		●				●	●
0216	Duchess of Oldenburg	3-4	●	summer	all purpose	●			●	●		
0220	Dudley Winter	3-4	●	fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
0245	Esopus Spitzenburg	4-7		winter	dessert			●			●	●
0281	Freedom	4-6		fall	dessert		●					
0291	Garden Royal	4-6		summer	dessert						●	
0295	Gideon	3-5		summer	unknown							
0313	Golden Delicious	4-7		fall	dessert		●					●
0319	Golden Russet	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●			●	●
0329	GoldRush	4-7		winter	dessert			●			●	●
0386	Honeycrisp	3-4	●	winter	dessert		●	●			●	●
0389	Honeygold	3-4	●	winter	all purpose	●	●	●	●			●
0452	Keepsake	3-5	●	winter	all purpose	●		●			●	
0457	King David	4-6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●	●	
0475	Liberty	4-6		fall	all purpose	●	●					●
0476	Liberty semi-dwarf	4-6		fall	all purpose	●	●					●
0522	McIntosh	4-5		fall	all purpose	●	●		●		●	
0564	Minnesota 447	4-6		winter	dessert			●			●	
0582	Moses Wood	4-6		summer	cooking				●	●		
0621	Northern Spy	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	●
0646	Opalescent	4-6		fall	dessert		●				●	
0723	Prairie Spy	3-5	●	winter	all purpose	●		●				
0727	Prima	4-6		fall	dessert		●					
0768	Red Astrichan	3-5	●	summer	cooking				●	●		
0808	Redfield	4-6		fall						●		
0810	Redfree	4-6		summer	all purpose	●	●		●			
0851	Roxbury Russet	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●			●	●
0918	Somerset of Maine	4-5		fall	all purpose	●	●			●		
0955	Starkey	4-5		fall	dessert		●				●	●
1017	Sweet 16	3-6	●	fall	dessert		●				●	●
1130	Wealthy	3-4	●	fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
1141	Whitney	4-6		fall	dessert		●				●	
1153	Williams Pride	4-7		summer	dessert							
1174	Winter Fameuse	3-5		fall	dessert		●					
1182	Winthrop Greening	4-6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			
1190	Wolf River	3-5	●	fall	cooking				●	●		
1202	Yellow Bellflower	4-6		winter	all purpose	●		●		●		
1214	Yellow Transparent	3-5	●	summer	cooking				●			



Apples *Malus* spp. Some definitions: **Summer apples** ripen in summer, are crisp only for a short period, do not store well, and are best used for cooking. **Fall apples** store longer and are useful for a wide variety of purposes. **Winter apples** ripen mid to late fall, store well, and reach their best flavor after weeks, or even months, of storage. **Dessert apples** are delicious eaten raw. **Subacid** means tart! **Russet** or **russeting** is a skin texture (fairly common on apple varieties and characteristic of a few pears and potatoes) which looks and feels somewhat like suede. **Bloom** is a naturally occurring dust-like film on the skin of some varieties of apples, plums and grapes.

Each variety has a **climate range** where it will thrive and produce its best fruit. At the end of each apple description we list a range of zones. For example, Z3-4 signifies that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 3 and 4 and that we don't recommend it farther south even though it would be plenty hardy. Z4-6 means that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 4, 5 or 6. We suggest that you use this guide to select apple varieties most appropriate to your area.

Choosing a variety: not every variety is right for you. It's not just about what tastes good. They all taste good to someone. It's a case of "different strokes for different folks." **All-purpose** apples are just that. They are good for a bunch of jobs. If I were planting just one tree, I'd start there. However if you're a history buff, consider the historical varieties and maybe plant one that originated nearby. If you don't eat many apples but are into making pies, go for the pie apples. If you're a dessert connoisseur, skip all the others and go for the highly flavored dessert varieties. Some are strictly for cider. Some are great to put out at the camp for summer use. Some are perfect for those who want fall fruit but don't have winter storage facilities. Others keep all winter and into the following summer. Read the descriptions and check out the chart on page 7. If you have a question about a specific variety, drop me an email. I'll try to help!

Some people wonder why **we graft our apples onto Antanovka standard rootstock**. Standard trees have deep, substantial—and therefore hardier—root systems. By selecting the varieties appropriate to your district, grafted on standard rootstock, you may well be planting a tree that will be picked by your grandchildren's grandchildren. Standard trees will grow to be large, but you can keep them trimmed. My largest trees are now about 25 years old. The tallest are still well under twenty feet.

Although standard-sized apple trees may be planted as close as 10-15' apart, they were typically planted 30' apart in 19th century orchards. We generally plant trees 20-25' apart with good results.

Apple trees are adaptable to a variety of soils and climates, though they prefer well-drained fertile soil. See pages 4-5 for information on soil preparation and planting. Varieties bearing annually are noted; others normally bear every other year. **All apple trees require a second variety for pollination**, but any apple or crabapple within a quarter mile will probably do. ($3^1/_2$-6' trees)

Baldwin Winter. Wilmington, MA, about 1740. Also called **Butters Apple** or **Woodpecker**. Discovered on the Butters Farm by a surveyor planning the Middlesex Canal and noted as a favorite site for local woodpeckers. Scions from the original tree were grafted and growing in Maine by 1810, and by 1850 Baldwin was the standard all-purpose home and commercial variety wherever it was grown. It remained dominant in Maine until the terrible winter of 1934 when tens of thousands of trees perished and McIntosh became king. Large round-conic thick-skinned fruit. Light yellow skin almost entirely blushed, mottled and striped with red and deep carmine. Hard crisp juicy yellowish flesh makes excellent eating and keeps till spring. Vigorous adaptable hugely productive long-lived healthy tree. When grower Dave Gott asked the late renowned entomologist Ron Prokopy his opinion of Baldwin, Ron replied that the apple is "not practical commercially due to biennialism but the *only* apple that is both disease and insect resistant." Hardiest in well-drained upland and north slopes. Massachusetts' most famous apple where it grows to perfection. Also extremely nice here in central Maine. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0045 Baldwin, $19.00

Black Oxford Winter. Unknown parentage. Paris, Oxford County, ME, about 1790. This outstanding apple, a favorite long ago around much of Maine, has been making a huge comeback in the last 20 years. Our best seller. Medium-sized round fruit, deep purple with a blackish bloom. From a distance you might think you'd discovered a huge plum tree. A 200-year-old Black Oxford tree still grows in Hallowell, and still bears large crops. Excellent pies, superb late cider. Leave the skins on for a delightful pink sauce. Best eating late December to March. They seem to get sweeter and sweeter as the months go by. Good cooking until early summer. Some insect and disease resistance. Becoming less rare every year! Blooms late. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0077 Black Oxford, $19.00

Blake Fall. Unknown parentage. Westbrook, ME. This tart all-purpose variety has become one of my favorites over the past few years. The medium-sized fruit is an oddly opaque yellow scattered with grey russet dots and an occasional faint blush. Moderately juicy yellowish flesh. Makes very good fresh eating: tart, citrusy, crisp, dense and firm. Winemakers might say, subtle licorice and nutmeg, hints of raspberry and cherry. Might be too tart for some. Best for cooking after New Year's. Makes a superior sauce. Cooks down very quickly. The skins do not dissolve but chew up easily. They have the requisite tartness for a good pie. Comes into bearing quickly and produces a crop every year. Long ago rather widespread around the state, now all but disappeared. Keeps until mid-late January. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0080 Blake, $19.00

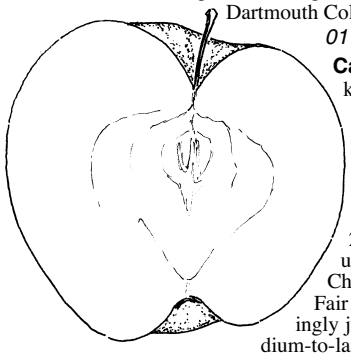
ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Briggs Auburn Fall-Winter. Introduced by John C Briggs of Auburn, ME, before 1850. One of Fedco's recent reintroductions and another one of my favorites. Large round-oblate clear-yellow fruit with glowing greenish shading and a slight blush. All-purpose apple with a bright well-balanced flavor, including hints of banana and blackberry, and chewy skin. Superior fresh eating well into winter and top-notch cooking. Peel it and it's highly aromatic. Produces a thick creamy golden-yellow medium-sweet apple sauce. No sugar necessary. Excellent in oatmeal. In a pie, the slices lose their shape but the crust won't sink and pie doesn't get watery. Medium-large annually bearing productive tree. Our scionwood comes from an old orchard near Belfast. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0103 Briggs Auburn, $19.00

Calville Blanc d'Hiver Winter. Unknown parentage. France or Germany, 16th century. Also called **White Winter Calville**. Famous as a dessert and cooking apple for over 400 years. Steve Woods of Poverty Lane orchards in Lebanon, NH, called it "the best culinary apple in the world." Large flattish pale green-yellow fruit with uneven lumpy ribs and a dotted orange-red blush. Creamy-white aromatic fine-grained juicy flesh with a sweet distinctive effervescent flavor. Should be stored a month to reach peak flavor. Will keep until mid-winter. Smooth when baked. Recommended for vinegar, fresh cider and as a sharp (acid) component in fermented cider. Not for coldest areas though Steve is growing it with great success up near Dartmouth College. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

0118 Calville Blanc d'Hiver, $19.00



Canadian Strawberry Fall. Unknown parentage. Possibly Solon, ME. Magnificently beautiful superb-tasting dessert apple. Very tasty early-season cider. Perfectly ripe at the end of September in central Maine when, in a good year, you won't find a better apple. In 2002 we put Canadian Strawberry up against Cox's Orange Pippin and Chestnut crab at the Common Ground Fair and it beat both of them. Surprisingly juicy distinctly tart full-flavored medium-to-large fruit. Round to conic shape with a tendency to have a convex stem end. Rich buttery-yellow skin with some green beneath, overspread about 50% with a veil of stripes and spots of vibrant red-orange. Roy Slamm, whose farm in Solon has three ancient trees, introduced it to me many years ago. Not mentioned in any literature as far as I know. Medium-sized upright tree. Bears annually. Does not keep well. Blooms midseason. Extremely rare! Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0121 Canadian Strawberry, $19.00

Cole's Quince Summer. Unknown parentage. Discovered or raised by Captain Henry Cole, Cornish, ME, about 1840. Also called **Quince of Cole.** Extremely rare all-purpose Maine summer apple from York County. Large flattish-conical ribbed bright yellow fruit sometimes has a brownish blush. As the fruit ripens, the blush turns a glowing translucent rusty red through which numerous yellow spots appear like stars. It was a hit in our taste tests where the white flesh was described as "tangy" and "strongly aromatic" having "zesty zip" and "zing with plenty of sweetness." Frequently recommended for cooking before it's completely ripe. Presumably called *Quince* because of what several old books call its "rich, high quince favor," and also perhaps because of its shape and coloring. It looks like a quince. Medium-sized spreading reliable productive tree. Blooms early. About as hardy as Baldwin. Z4-7.

0162 Cole's Quince, $19.00

"Ate an apfel avore gwain to bed, makes the doctor beg his bread."
—Martin Luther

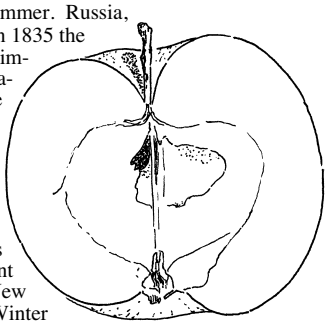
Cortland Fall-Winter. (Ben Davis x McIntosh) NY Stn, 1915. A cross between two commercial giants at the time, one (Ben Davis) on the way out and the other (McIntosh **#0522**) on the way in. Although never as important as McIntosh, Cortland remains a very popular apple throughout northern New England even in this era of many new introductions. Medium to medium-large slightly ribbed dull red fruit with a purple blush. Excellent eating and cooking. Slow-oxidizing white flesh is very good in salads; fine-grained, crisp, tender, juicy. Produces a surprisingly delightful cider, fresh or fermented, in a mix or even on its own. Vigorous tall upright spreading tree with reddish bark. Annual producer of heavy crops. Bears young; remove fruit for the first year or two to avoid stunting growth. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0170 Cortland, $19.00

Cox's Orange Pippin Fall. Possibly a seedling of Ribston Pippin. Near Slough, Bucks, England, around 1825. Deservedly one of the most famous of all apples. Not only one of the best eating apples ever but also the parent of many other great varieties. Medium-sized all-purpose aromatic fruit is red-orange to red with russet striping and wash. Perfectly balanced slightly subacid flavor and crisp juicy tender flesh improve with storage. Moderately vigorous moderately productive tree bears young and annually. Prefers cooler climates and higher pH (6.5-7.5+). Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. We have an ample supply of good-looking trees this year. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0176 Cox's Orange Pippin, $19.00

Duchess of Oldenburg Late Summer. Russia, 17th century. Also called **Duchess**. In 1835 the Massachusetts Horticultural Society imported the first four of many apple varieties to the U.S. from Russia. These were Alexander, Tetofsky, Red Astrichan (**#0768**) and Duchess of Oldenburg. Duchess was soon planted extensively wherever growers needed extreme hardiness and is still quite popular in most of northern New England. Aroostook County's favorite apple. Thought to be a parent of the famous Canadian variety New Brunswicker and parent of Dudley Winter (**#0220**). Medium-sized round red-striped fruit is irregularly splashed and mottled with crimson. Yellow firm fine-grained crisp tender juicy subacid aromatic flesh. Highly esteemed for all sorts of cooking, makes a pie with a tart flavorful zip; Duchess is one of the best pie apples for coldest districts. Prolific precocious small to medium-sized adaptable tree. Scab resistant. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**



0216 Duchess of Oldenburg, $19.00

Dudley Winter Fall. (Duchess x Hyslop Crab) Castle Hill, ME, about 1877. Also called **Dudley** and **North Star**. The story goes that orchardist John Wesley Dudley's daughter Grace planted seeds from a Duchess tree pollinated by a Hyslop crab. The resulting seedling became the most widely planted new variety in the North at the turn of the previous century and probably the most well-known Maine apple outside the state. Medium-sized roundish slightly flattened fruit is vibrant, shiny buttery yellow, overspread with radiating red stripes and splashes. Firm but tender, juicy aromatic subacid flesh for fresh eating and cooking. In northern areas—where it reaches its prime—it also keeps into winter. Small vigorous spreading drooping tree begins bearing young, and crops annually. Our scionwood comes from a small abandoned orchard just north of Castle Hill. Extremely hardy. Blooms early. Natural semi-dwarf. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0220 Dudley Winter, $19.00

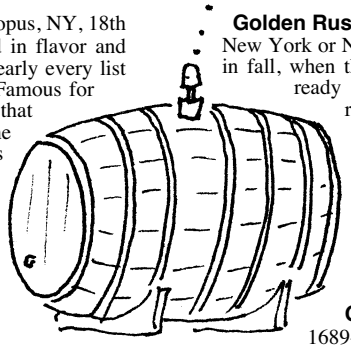
Making applesauce and pear sauce in the oven

Tom Vigue learned from an old-timer how to make syrupy fruit sauces and butters by roasting the fruit.

Fill a large (or huge) roasting pan with whole apples or pears with only the stems removed, as long as the fruit is nice quality and doesn't need more trimming. Roast at approximately 350° for a couple of hours, checking occasionally to mash down any fruit before it scorches. After two hours or more, when fruit is soft, process through a food mill to remove skins and cores. At that point you will have a sauce. Return sauce to the oven and roast for a few more hours, depending on how concentrated you want it. A very concentrated sweet fruit butter eventually results without ever burning the bottom of the pan.

Esopus Spitzenburg Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. Esopus, NY, 18th century. For the first time in the Fedco catalog. Unexcelled in flavor and quality. A choice dessert and culinary apple, mentioned in nearly every list of best-flavored varieties. Slightly subacid, crisp and juicy. Famous for being Thomas Jefferson's favorite apple. For years I figured that meant it was a warm-weather tree and shouldn't be in the catalog until I learned that Tom was forever frustrated by his inability to grow Spitz down south. Medium-large bright-red round to mostly conic fruit, covered with russet dots, not unlike a slightly more conical Starkey. Excellent acid source for sweet or fermented cider. Moderately vigorous tree, with easily-trained wide-angle branches. Bears moderate crops. Susceptible to scab though I don't spray mine and have been happy with the fruit quality. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

0245 Esopus Spitzenburg, $19.00



Freedom Late Summer-Early Fall. [NY 18492 (Macoun x Antanovka)] x NY 49821-46 [Golden Delicious x F2 26829-2-2 ((Rome x M. floribunda 821) x (Rome x M. floribunda 821))] NY Stn, 1983. All purpose variety from the same disease-resistant apple breeding program that developed Liberty. Medium-large round-conic fruit entirely covered with bright-red stripes. Juicy tender firm spicy flesh. Keeps until New Years. Vigorous spreading productive annually bearing precocious tree. Considered to be scab immune. Blooms mid-season. Recommended as a pollinator for other varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0281 Freedom, $19.00

Garden Royal Late Summer-Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Sudbury, MA, about 1790. Eat one and you'll wonder why it isn't planted in every orchard. Offer it in your catalog and strangers will appear and buy you out. It's an apple with a cult following. With good reason. It may be the best-flavored apple I have ever tasted. Small to medium-sized round-conic fruit is deep red with prominent white dots. AJ Downing, in the 1860 edition of his *Fruits and Fruit Trees of America*, calls it "very tender, juicy, rich, vinous, aromatic, a beautiful and excellent fruit." Once extremely popular because of its exquisite sweet flavor and commonly found in farm orchards, it didn't fit the commercial orchard mold and fell out of favor. Medium-sized moderately vigorous rounded productive tree. 4-6. **ME Grown.**

0291 Garden Royal, $19.00

Gideon Late Summer. Unknown parentage. Peter Gideon introduction. Excelsior, MN, 1888. Peter Gideon is best known in the apple world as the originator of Wealthy, one of the most famous of all American apple varieties. Though much less well-known, Gideon has its own share of fans. The large conic beautiful bright-yellow rose-blushed summer apple was first introduced to me many years ago by Tom Roberts who was then sharing Peacemeal Farm in Dixmont with the ancient tree. Tom said the Gideons "produced heavily on an almost completely ignored tree that was in decline through age, rotten wood, etc. It grows in the open on a sunny knoll in a field, and produced a majority of very good looking apples with no care whatsoever…a sweet juicy eating apple, and…wonderful for sauce." Daryl Hunter of New Brunswick added in an email, "One of the heritage varieties that I'd never part with is Gideon, with its delicate skin and its very juicy, pear flavored flesh…" Ripens a bit before Red Astrichan, toward the end of August in central Maine. Use it up quickly because it does not keep. Seldom any scab. Many thanks to Mark Guzzi who now tends the ancient Peacemeal tree and provided us with the scionwood. Z 3-5. **ME Grown.**

0295 Gideon, $19.00

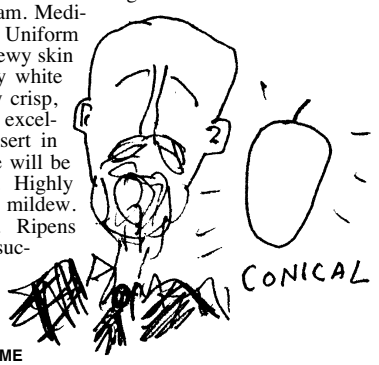
Golden Delicious Fall. Thought to be Grimes Golden x Golden Reinette. Clay County, WV, about 1900. I discovered this discarded strain of Golden Delicious growing in my neighbors' yard over 30 years ago. I loved the apple but could not identify it. This is not the plasticene Golden Delicious you find in the grocery store. I sent samples to the New York State Fruit Testing Association in Geneva, NY. They thought it was Green Sweet. I have since decided that they were incorrect and that it's an old strain of Golden. Produces nearly perfect 2½" round-conic yellow fruit with an occasional red-orange blush. Delicious sprightly flavor, sweet and juicy. A pleasure to eat green in early October, yellow in December or even slightly soft in April. Excellent sauce. The old tree growing up the road still bears most years even as the last major limbs break off one by one. Medium-sized upright open tree with good wide branch angles. I grafted two trees for us many years ago and they are thriving in our mediocre soil. Precocious. Scab resistant; remarkably tolerant of plum curculio. Keeps until late spring. Blooms mid-late. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

0313 Golden Delicious, $19.00

Golden Russet Winter. Uncertain origin. Thought to be from England, New York or New England. The champagne of cider apples, ripening late in fall, when the root cellar has finally cooled off and the best cider is ready to be made: sweet, balanced, thick and smooth. Also recommended as a "sharp" acid source for fermented cider. Excellent eating; keeps all winter and well into spring. Round medium-sized hard fruit; uniform in size and shape, softens as winter progresses but maintains its superior sweet flavor. Solid deep yellow *golden* russeted skin. Medium to large vigorous diverging upcurving tree with silvery-green leaves on long willowy branches. Scab resistant. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0319 Golden Russet, $19.00

GoldRush Winter. Coop 38 {PRI 2750-6=[Coop 17 (PRI 1689-100) x Golden Delicious]} PRI Coop, 1994. The first of the new disease-resistant varieties from the well-known Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois apple breeding program to have superior storage qualities. Not only that, but it's probably *the* best tasting apple to come out of that program. Medium to large round-conic fruit. Uniform deep greenish-yellow opaque chewy skin turns golden in storage. Creamy white green-flecked flesh is hard, very crisp, juicy and tart. A solid apple with excellent flavor. Serve them for dessert in February and March and no one will be disappointed. Very precocious. Highly resistant to scab and powdery mildew. Moderate fireblight resistance. Ripens very late in fall, but does ripen successfully in central Maine. Keeps until May in the root cellar. Moderately vigorous tree with a strong central leader blooms midseason to late. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**



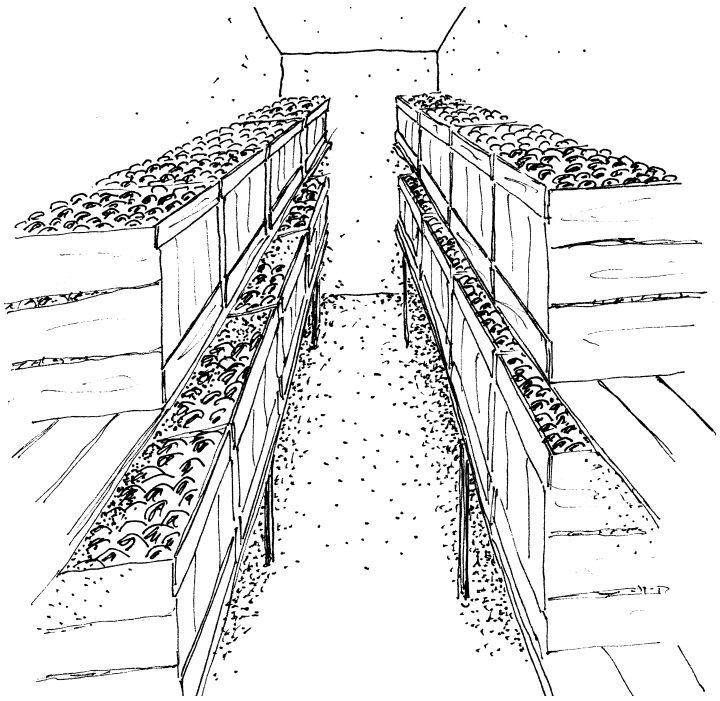
0329 GoldRush, $19.00

Honeycrisp Winter. MN 1711 (Keepsake x open pollinated). U Minn, 1991. Medium-large fruit, described as "explosively crisp," mottled and striped red over yellow. Cream-colored flesh is sweet and juicy with hard snapping-crisp texture. Mild aroma and subacid flavor are top quality in September and improve steadily in storage. Unusual because it ripens in early fall yet keeps up to seven months. First of the many excellent University of Minnesota introductions to receive large-scale commercial attention, now has a huge following. Probably best planted north of Massachusetts; has not performed as well in warmer districts. Was always thought to be a Honeygold-Macoun cross until recent DNA testing at the University of Minnesota revealed at least one of its real parents. The other is still out there on the loose. Tends towards annual bearing. Relatively small low-vigor upright spreading tree. Above average scab resistance. Blooms mid-late season. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0386 Honeycrisp, $19.75

Honeygold Winter. MN 1595 (Golden Delicious x Haralson). U Minn, 1970. A Golden Delicious for the north. Large round-to-conic golden-yellow bronze-blushed aromatic fruit has crisp and juicy yellow flesh with high-flavored "Golden Delicious" quality. Sometimes the flavor reminds me of a pear. Has a very nice zing to it. Aroostook growers Steve and Barb Miller consider it their best all-purpose winter apple. Harvest in October. Keeps all winter. Medium-sized moderately vigorous moderately open tree. Moderate scab resistance. Blooms midseason. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0389 Honeygold, $19.00



Keepsake Winter. MN 1593 (MN 447 x Northern Spy). U Minn, 1979. A most aptly named apple. Keeps until July. Light yellow very fine-textured flesh is hard, crisp, juicy and sweet. Excellent aromatic flavor, but you must wait at least a month after picking. David Bedford of the Minnesota Horticultural Research Center said, "The completely unique flavor percolates up your nose....If you can't stand the looks, just close your eyes when you eat it!" The irregular conic medium-sized fruit is almost entirely overlaid with stripes and a wash of very deep red. Moderately vigorous medium-sized tree usually bears annual crops. A northern grower on the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) email discussion group called it, "My most agreeable, reliable, grower overwhelmingly friendly apple. I have to thin the whoopee out of it every year. Big fruit. Big taste. Keepsake! Keepsake! Keepsake!" Recently discovered to be one of the parents of the sensational Honeycrisp. Somewhat resistant to scab. Blooms late. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0452 Keepsake, $19.00

King David Fall. Chance seedling, thought to be to Jonathan x Arkansas Black, Washington County, Arkansas, 1893. King David has a reputation as an intensely flavored apple. I agree. In a good year, this is one of my favorites. The initial bite is an explosion of flavors. You'll wince. Pineapple, tangerine, lemon, sweet, sour, tart, sharp, aromatic and spicy all rush around simultaneously. I'm reminded of the first time I bit into a piece of sushi slathered in green horseradish. You may see stars. The medium-sized round-oblate-conic fruit is very dark solid maroon—nearly black. The fine juicy flesh is firm yet tender and distinctly yellow. Once grown here and there in Maine orchards. Now mostly forgotten. The tree is vigorous, bears young and regularly. Ripens in the fall and keeps until the beginning of the year. May soften at the core if allowed to overripen on the tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

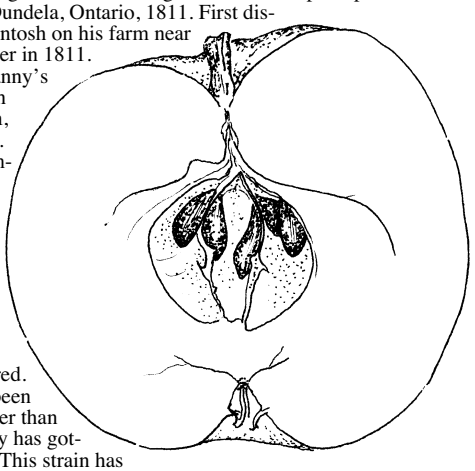
0457 King David, $19.00

Liberty Late Summer-Fall. NY 55140-19 [Macoun x PRI 54-12 (PRI Coop complex cross includes Rome Beauty, Jersey Black, McIntosh, Wealthy and *M. floribunda*)]. NY Stn, 1978. Often cited as the best of the disease-resistant varieties, particularly in the Northeast. Somewhat similar to Macoun. A handsome medium-sized round-conic bluish-pinkish-red apple with crisp white flesh of very good dessert quality when dead ripe. Excellent cooking and cider too. Recommended for single-variety cider. Keeps till late fall. Begins fruit production at an early age, bearing consistent heavy annual crops. Naturally well-structured sturdy tree is easy to care for. Considered to be 100% scab-immune, though not resistant to insects or other lesser apple diseases. Allowing Liberty to crop too heavily at a young age can stunt final tree size and reduce productivity. Even with mature trees, thinning fruit clusters is important to maintain fruit size. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0475 Liberty, $19.00

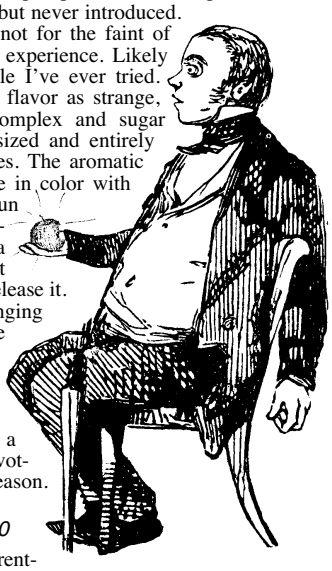
ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

McIntosh Fall. Thought to be a seedling of Fameuse or perhaps St. Lawrence x Alexander. Dundela, Ontario, 1811. First discovered by John McIntosh on his farm near the St. Lawrence River in 1811. Originally called Granny's Apple, then McIntosh Red, sometimes Gem, and finally McIntosh. Certainly the most important apple in the Northeast. Although not planted in many other locations, it grows to perfection in our cool climate. There are many strains of McIntosh, some striped, some blushed, some solid red. Recent strains have been selected for traits other than flavor, and the variety has gotten a bad reputation. This strain has green ground color overlaid with red stripes and blush. It was planted in 1906 in Mercer, ME. Of all the strains we have sampled, this one has the best "Mac" taste. This is a delicious aromatic apple. Annual cropper. Large beautifully rounded spreading strong easily managed tree. Susceptible to scab. Does not keep well in ordinary storage. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**



0522 McIntosh, $19.00

Minnesota 447 Fall-Winter. Malinda open pollinated. Seed planted at the University of Minnesota before 1936, but never introduced. A massively flavored dessert apple—not for the faint of heart. A whole new level of culinary experience. Likely the most distinctive and unusual apple I've ever tried. Astonished friends have described its flavor as strange, molasses, olives, fabulous, sweet, complex and sugar cane. The roundish fruit is medium-sized and entirely covered with dark bluish-purple stripes. The aromatic crisp crystaline flesh is apricot-orange in color with occasional red staining, so juicy it'll run down your hand. Years ago David Bedford of The University of Minnesota explained to me that because it didn't taste like an apple, they would never release it. Joyfully they now appear to be changing their minds. The University sent me scionwood, I grafted it and soon got to taste the fruit. My young tree has cropped for 4 years without fail. Grow it where it's cold as it may have no flavor farther south. May receive a name in the next year or two. We're voting for "Sugarcane". Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0564 Minnesota 447, $19.00

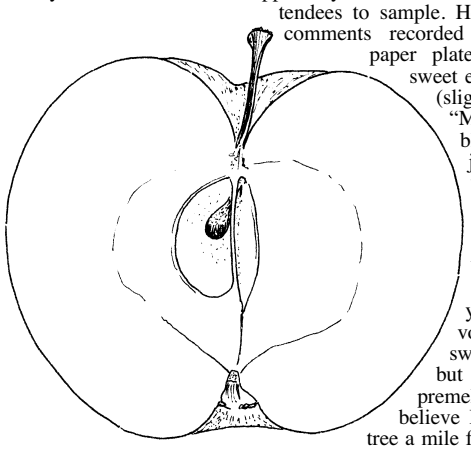
Moses Wood Summer. Unknown parentage. Winthrop, ME, before 1847. If you're like Gene, who won't eat an apple unless it's tart, this may be the variety you've dreamed about. Late-summer dessert and cooking apple, medium-sized, roundish to conic with distinct ribbing and lobes around the calyx end. Light yellow skin with a pink blush and red stripes. White medium- to fine-grained tender very juicy flesh, definitely *subacid*. Excellent tart fresh eating. That tartness also adds a kick to its superb early season pies. Vigorous upright productive tree. Named for the itinerant Winthrop grafter who traveled on horseback spreading apple varieties around central Maine long before the days of Fedco. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0582 Moses Wood, $19.00

Northern Spy Winter. Chance seedling. East Bloomfield, NY, about 1800. A bronze plaque marks the site of the original tree of this former commercial giant, which is still a renowned Maine favorite. Very large delectable all-purpose fruit has yellow background covered all over with pink and light red stripes and wash. Very juicy and tender. Even when the tender skin bruises, it still keeps extremely well. Medium-to-large moderately vigorous slightly upcurving late-blooming long-lived tree. Its one drawback is being slow to come into bearing, although for us it has been worth the wait. Prefers fertile well-drained soil. There has been much speculation as to the origin of the odd name. Some maintain it was named after the legendary Northern Spy, a notorious hardcore abolitionist hero during the early 19th century who assisted slaves in escaping north, set up safe houses for them *en route*, and robbed and killed slave catchers. Blooms late season. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0621 Northern Spy, $19.00

Opalescent Fall. Ohio, 1899. Opalescent is an extremely flavorful dessert variety. At the 2005 Maine Apple Day, we set out dozens of apples for attendees to sample. Here are a few of the comments recorded on the Opalescent paper plate: "Mildly tart with sweet essence", "Rich flavor (slight hint of pear)," "My favorite on this table," "sweet, tart and juicy," "sweet very tasty—multiflavor, just right tart," "nicely tart yet mild flavor." This very large brilliant deep red dessert apple will shock your tongue with flavor. It's crisp, it's sweet, it's tart, it's juicy but most of all it's supremely flavorful. I can't believe I'd driven by the old tree a mile from home probably a thousand times before I finally stopped and tried it six years ago. Every so often I meet someone who knows Opalescent and all agree. Wow! Excellent fresh eating. Said to cook up well too though I haven't tried them yet. Will keep till mid-late winter. Vigorous medium-sized annually producing tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0646 Opalescent, $19.00

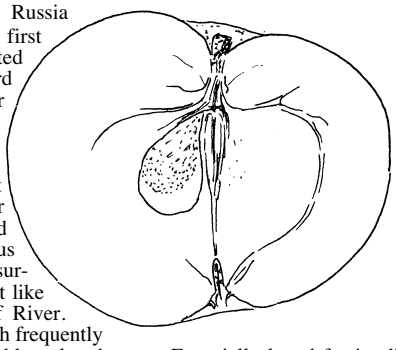
Prairie Spy Fall-Winter. MN 1007, unknown parentage. U Minn 1940. Extremely hardy all-purpose storage apple, suited to the north country and dependably bearing a crop every year. Large roundish-conic red-striped handsome fruit resembles Northern Spy from which it derives its name but not its genes. Greenish-white flesh is juicy, crisp, sweet, subacid and aromatic. Keeps well into spring and the flavor improves in storage. We decided to offer Prairie Spy at the suggestion of Steve Miller who has been growing it in northern Aroostook County for many years. When we discussed the apple recently, he told me that he'd give it four stars for storage, three stars for fresh eating and three for cooking. "I'm happy to always have one on the farm." Vigorous precocious tree. Some scab resistance. Blooms late. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0723 Prairie Spy, $19.00

Prima Fall. Coop 2 (PRI 1225-100=PRI 14-510 x NJ 123249). PRI Coop, 1970. One of the first of the disease-resistant varieties to hit the market and now one of the tried and true. Although other catalogs have dropped Prima in favor of newer "designer" varieties, we still think very highly of it. Medium-large roundish fruit has rich yellow skin with a striking orange-red blush. Resembles Jonathan which is buried somewhere in its convoluted parentage. Mildly subacid juicy white flesh provides excellent eating and makes good cider. Keeps a couple of months. Open spreading tree bears annually if kept thinned. Proving to be hardier than anyone thought. Scab immune; resistant to fireblight, cedar apple rust and mildew. Bears annually. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0727 Prima, $19.00

Red Astrichan Summer. Russia prior to 1835. One of the first four Russian apples imported to the U.S. and the standard Maine summer apple for generations. Still found in many old Maine dooryards. Moderate to heavy crops of medium-sized somewhat oblate fruit, splashed or sometimes solidly covered with dark red. An obvious russet patch nearly always surrounds the stem. Looks a bit like a junior version of a Wolf River. Juicy rich subacid white flesh frequently tinged with red makes a highly colored sauce. Especially loved for its distinctive flavor in pies. Keeps for a month with refrigeration. Vigorous tree bears young, often annually, and over a period of several weeks in midsummer. Very hardy. Blooms early. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**



0768 Red Astrichan, $19.00

Garfield C. King: a Tribute

Garfield King died unexpectedly on January 20, 2006, at his log camp in Eagle Lake, Maine. He was 77. Garfield was born in Caribou and grew up in northern Maine. He went to the University in Presque Isle and Orono, served in the Marines, and had a long and distinguished career as an educator in Aroostook County. He also had a lifelong passion for plants. That was how I got to know him. Some years ago friends told me that he and I had to meet. I drove 4 1/2 hours north to New Sweden, met my friends and then together we drove the last hour or so to Fort Kent. Introductions were brief and within a few minutes we were off on a plant exploration trip for the rest of the day.

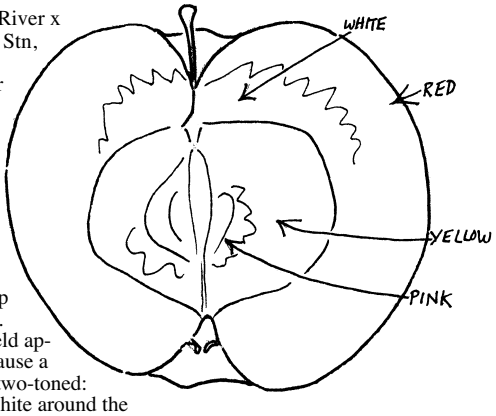
From then on, every September when I took my annual trip north to explore the gardens and orchards of Aroostook County, I always included a visit to Garfield and his wife Venette at their Page Street home in downtown Fort Kent. Most years Garfield would take me on an adventure in the surrounding countryside or over the border into Quebec. He was the consummate plant explorer, always on the lookout for something to bring back to his garden and to share with his friends.

Once, during a superintendent's conference, many years before I knew him, Garfield was in a motel hallway when he heard several forest rangers chatting. When one of them said "hardy blackberry" he told me, "I pretended I was examining the wallpaper." Next spring when the blackberries were in bloom, he traveled to the location the rangers had mentioned as best as he could figure, hoping to find the plants by the flowers. In an abandoned settlement in Knowles Corner, he scored. Within a few years Garfield's blackberry became well known all around Fort Kent. A month or two after we met, a box of roots arrived for me in the mail. That was the beginning of my patch. Then, after several years of trials, we offered it in the Fedco catalog with the name Fort Kent King.

Garfield introduced me to several extremely hardy and unusual apples he had discovered, including the enormous Charette. The huge four-trunked tree—probably an original seedling—sits on Charette Hill above Fort Kent. It's thought to be over 200 years old, dating back to the first Jesuit settlers. He called the fruit "the donut apple" because of the sunken blossom end. When you slice the apples, they sometimes look like donuts just off the cutter. He took me to Sly Brook to introduce me to the amazing Pomme d'Or, the apple known as the "golden pear", huge rectangular fruit with translucent yellow skin and a large hollow cavity that is often filled with a golden nectar you can actually drink. We went up into Quebec together to look for old plums. He sent me raspberries from an old convent. There was a seemingly endless stream of new discoveries. My time with him was one adventure after another.

Sometimes when I went to visit, we would go no further than his back yard. We could easily spend an hour or two right there despite the fact that Garfield and Venette's lot is barely 150 x 125'. Subtract the house and the driveway and the neat trim lawn and you have about 1/3 of an acre. A year ago I took a partial inventory of the plants they've been growing. Beside the driveway is the vegetable garden, about 30 x 125'. Interplanted with the vegetables are rhubarb, asparagus, blackberries, raspberries, highbush blueberries, grapes, various ornamentals and a dozen fruit trees. More blackberries and fruit trees pepper the back yard. Sweet potatoes grow beside the garage door. There's a small nut collection featuring two large butternuts, a large black walnut, some hazelnuts ("squirrel food"), and numerous seedlings of various sizes in pots. Practically every plant comes with a story. There's the 50-year-old red oak on the other side of the house that Garfield planted from an acorn he collected off the sidewalk the day he graduated from UMO. And there's mountain ash and hawthorn and lilacs and crabapples and more. He and Venette lived together in a mini-paradise of their creation in the middle of town. Their yard could be a model for suburban dwellers in every town in America.

Venette told me that Garfield was sorting four cups of beans the evening he passed away. Earlier that day he had called his neighbors to tell them he was going to slice up one of his Blue Hubbards and wanted to know who would like a piece. He always had something to share.



Redfield Fall. Wolf River x Niedzwetzkyana. NY Stn, 1938. Although often considered too tart for eating "out of hand," the medium-large gorgeous opaque solid rusty-red-skinned and red-*fleshed* fruit is excellent in sauce, pies, and salads. Also makes wonderful jelly. It turns cider and sauce red and holds up well under a pie crust. Cutting open a Redfield apple is guaranteed to cause a stir. What's inside is two-toned: deep pink fading to white around the core. The flowers are also two-toned, deep pink, tipped with small white lightening bolts. And the bronze-red foliage adds further interest all season. Ornamental enough to be included with the crabapples, which is where we've listed it over the years. This year we decided to put it in with the fruit. One of the very first to bloom each year. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0808 Redfield, $19.00

Redfree Summer. Coop 13 (PRI 2175-7=Raritan x PRI 1018-101). PRI Coop, 1981. One of the newer disease-resistant scab-immune releases from the PRI breeding program. Medium-sized round firm sweet crisp juicy entirely red summer apple ripens mid-late August in central Maine. One of the only summer apples you can call crisp. Excellent fresh eating and creamy thick coarse sweet applesauce. Keeps two weeks in the kitchen or two months in cold storage. Vigorous somewhat upright habit. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0810 Redfree, $19.00

Roxbury Russet Winter. Roxbury, MA, early 1600s. One of best late winter dessert apples. Renowned for juice and cider. Together with Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening one of the big three commercial apples in New England for most of the nineteenth century. Not as sweet as Golden Russet. Rich, spicy and juicy. Hard medium-large oblate-conic-angular fruit covered with greenish to yellowish-brown russet. Not uniform in size, shape or color. Keeps until late spring. Resistant to scab and mildew. In growing demand these days with the resurgence of interest in hard cider. The aromatic juice is recommended for both single-variety cider and blends, fresh or fermented. Medium-to-large vigorous spreading tree. Probably the first named American apple variety. We have a good supply in '07 but still recommend ordering early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0851 Roxbury Russet, $19.00

Somerset of Maine Late Summer-Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Mercer, Somerset County, ME, before 1850. Also known as **Somerset**. The late Edward Bobalek, fruit collector and Orono professor, described Somerset as a summer apple with the flesh and flavor of a winter apple. Large oblate all-purpose fruit. Tender, juicy subacid flesh. Buttery yellow skin mostly covered with stripes and wash of a beautiful soft rusty red. In the 1907 *Maine Agricultural Experiment Station Report*, WM Munson wrote, "It is an excellent apple and, when known, is highly prized as an early market variety." The crowd at the North Belgrade annual Pie Taste-Off was really impressed by the Somerset pie we sampled a few years ago. I think it won the pie contest that year as I recall, or if it didn't, it nearly caused a riot. It makes a really good single-variety September pie. The fruit will keep into late fall. Very vigorous spreading tree. Still a local favorite here and there around the state. One of Mercer's several great contributions to the pomological world. (Another, of course, is 91-year-old Francis Fenton.) Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

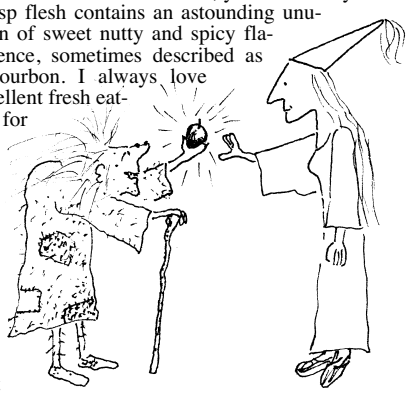
0918 Somerset of Maine, $19.00

Starkey Fall-Early Winter. Seedling of Ribston Pippin. Vassalboro, ME, 1820. My favorite fall fresh eating apple, its exquisite combination of crisp sweetness and tartness reminescent of a perfectly ripe Concord grape. Similar in appearance and flavor to Garden Royal, Starkey has more tartness. If I had to pick between the two of them (I don't; I have both) I would pick Starkey. It's a larger apple, bears more regularly and keeps well into winter. I get into them beginning in late September, with perfect eating being just about Christmas. Still quite decent in late winter. Medium-sized roundish fruit is rosy red, covered almost completely with fine lines, shades and stripes of darker reds and sprinkled with pronounced white dots. Originated on the farm of Moses Starkey, a Quaker minister in North Vassalboro. Listed in *The Apples of New York* but never got much notice outside central Maine where it was once quite popular. Annually bearing tough medium-large tree. A great apple. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0955 Starkey, $19.00

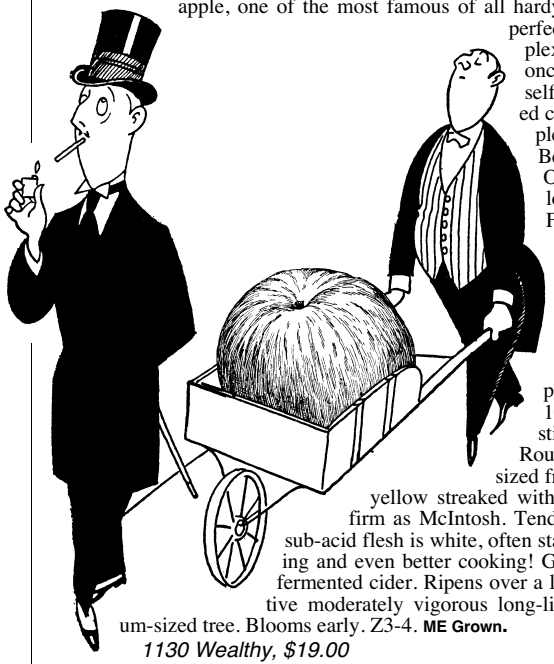
ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Sweet 16 Early Fall. MN 1630 (MN447 x Northern Spy) U Minn, 1979. Whenever anyone eats a Sweet 16 for the first time, you know they will be surprised. Fine-textured crisp flesh contains an astounding unusually complex combination of sweet nutty and spicy flavors with slight anise essence, sometimes described as cherry, vanilla or even bourbon. I always love Sweet 16 season. Truly excellent fresh eating, although it is too sweet for some pallets. Round-conic bronze-red medium-sized fruit, striped and washed with rose-red. Annual bearer if thinned. Very hardy moderate-sized vigorous vase-shaped tree grows upright with willowy branches that get loaded with fruit but do not break. Grower-friendly. Reaches its best flavor and texture in northern districts. Some resistance to scab. Keeps till midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**



1017 Sweet 16, $19.00

Wealthy Fall. Cherry crab seedling. Excelsior, MN, 1860. A Maine native of sorts, the seed having come from Bangor. Superb all-purpose fall apple, one of the most famous of all hardy varieties. With its perfect texture and complex flavors, Wealthy once again proved itself to be the undisputed champion for fall apple pies in the 2005 Belgrade Pie Taste-Off. Our old friend, long-time orchardist Francis Fenton, believes Wealthy—not McIntosh—deserves to be the favorite commercial apple of northern New England. The trees his father planted in Mercer 101 years ago are still going strong. Round-oblate medium-sized fruit is pale greenish-yellow streaked with carmine. About as firm as McIntosh. Tender very juicy sweet sub-acid flesh is white, often stained red. Good eating and even better cooking! Good acid source for fermented cider. Ripens over a long period. Productive moderately vigorous long-lived small to medium-sized tree. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**



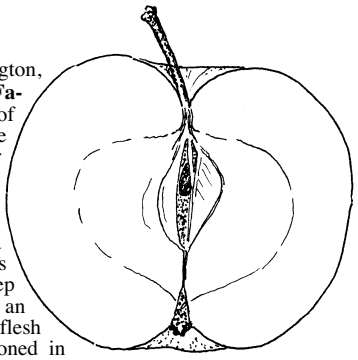
1130 Wealthy, $19.00

Whitney Late Summer. Small round pinkish-striped fruit ripens in mid September in central Maine. Considered a crab but we include it here because it is definitely suitable for the kitchen and the lunch box. Excellent pickling and good to excellent fresh eating. In a good year the fruit is better than Chestnut if that's possible to believe. Intense and incredibly sweet. One year at Common Ground Fair, Whitney beat out Cox's Orange Pippin and Chestnut in our taste test. I was amazed. The fruit looks similar to *Chestnut*. Maybe a little more pink. Eat it or can it up quick because it doesn't keep long. Hardy, vigorous, heavy bearing. Blooms pink and white. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1141 Whitney, $19.00

Williams Pride Summer. Co-op 23 PRI 2845-1=(PRI 1018-101 x NJ50) PRI Coop, 1988. Probably the most popular summer apple among the newly developed disease-resistant introductions. It's actually crisp, which is rare that time of year. Deep solid purple roundish-conic irregularly shaped fruit, highlighted with areas of glowing rosy red, and covered with a thin bloom. Light cream-colored flesh with red staining just under the skin is firm, crisp and very juicy, with a nice acidic blend of tart and sweet, reminiscent of Fameuse. Long ripening period means you don't have to eat them all at once. Vigorous annual-bearing tree with some biennial tendency, well-shaped with strong right-angled branches that do not require careful training. Highly resistant to fireblight and cedar apple rust, resistant to powdery mildew. Scab immune. Blooms early-midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

1153 Williams Pride, $19.00



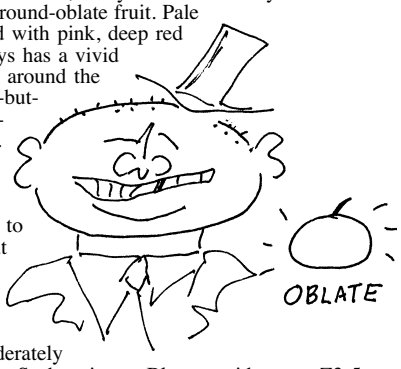
Winter Fameuse Fall. Farmington, ME, 19th century. Also called **Fameuse West**. Sport (mutation) of Fameuse (AKA Snow). The same excellent eating, sauce and cider as Fameuse but with better keeping qualities. At its best as a dessert fruit: tender, aromatic, juicy, sweet and tart. If you like a really *good* Mac, you'll love this apple. Medium-sized roundish deep bright red fruit with thin skin and an obvious suture line. Snow-white flesh is sometimes stained red. Mentioned in George Stilphen's fine book, *The Apples of Maine*. Found in the New Portland area by noted orchardist and fruit explorer Howard Wulf who keeps trying to get me to change the name to Snow-West. Although I like his suggestion, so far I've resisted. Keeps well into winter. Upright-spreading rather vigorous moderately tall very productive long-lived tree with dark reddish bark. Susceptible to scab. Rare. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

1174 Winter Fameuse, $19.00

Winthrop Greening Late Summer-Fall. Ichabod Howe Farm, Winthrop, ME, before 1800. Ichabod Howe (1731-1810) laid out many of Winthrop's roads, organized construction of its first church, was an accomplished trapper and hunter, served seven terms as selectman and was, appropriately enough, Winthrop's first orchardist. One of the few Maine apples to receive attention from outside the state over the years. Quite popular throughout central Maine as late as 1920; now all but unknown. Large 3¼" flattish-oblate beautiful fruit, light green with a red-orange wash, small greenish dots, and splashes and ribs of russeting, usually with a patch of russet radiating from the stem. Very interesting sweet flavor, medium-low acidity, with a crunch. We're pleased that a Winthrop Greening and Moses Wood (#**0582**), another Winthrop apple, were planted at the new high school in Winthrop. Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1182 Winthrop Greening, $19.00

Wolf River Fall. Alexander seedling. Near Wolf River, WI, 1875. Perhaps the most famous old-time apple in Maine, likely due to its catchy name and its extremely large—even huge—round-oblate fruit. Pale yellow-green skin mostly covered with pink, deep red and bright crimson. Almost always has a vivid yellowish-greenish russety splash around the stem. Creamy-white coarse firm-but-tender flesh. Aromatic subacid flavor is very good for cooking. Makes an excellent baked apple and a decent pie. Particularly tasty dried. Not much good for fresh eating, but good things happen to the flavor when it's dried. I cut them in full slices right across the core and place them on a screen above the wood stove. They dry in a couple of days. Keeps until late fall. Large moderately vigorous productive spreading tree. Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**



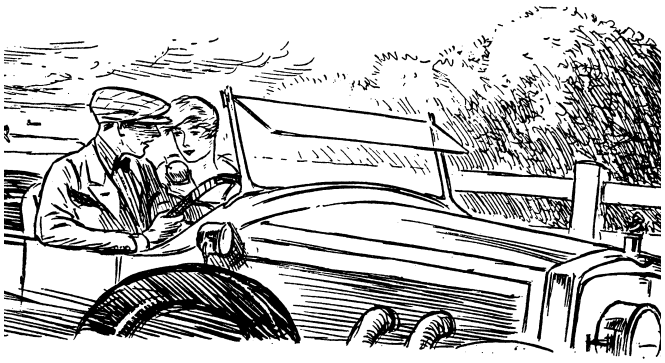
1190 Wolf River, $19.00

Yellow Bellflower Winter. Burlington, NJ, 18th c. Also known as **Belle-Fleur** or **Yellow Belle-Fleur.** Very large beautiful conic-oblong pale yellow all-purpose fruit, sometimes with a russet netting and often with a blush. AJ Downing described the flesh 150 years ago as "tender, juicy, crisp, sprightly sub-acid…" Quite tart before completely ripe. One of the best of all cooking apples. Among the oldest and most famous of American apple varieties, possibly originating as early as the 17th century. Common for generations throughout the New York-New England area. Occasionally massive ancient specimens can be found in old Maine orchards, usually missing all of their lower branches. Received its name from its beautiful blossoms. Ripens in late fall and keeps until March in the root cellar. Many thanks to Richard Kelly for providing us scionwood from their old hulk in Vassalboro which is still producing after what seems like eons. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1202 Yellow Bellflower, $19.00

Yellow Transparent Summer. Imported from Russia, 1870. Along with Red Astrichan, the classic northern New England summer apple. As ubiquitous as Duchess in Aroostook County. Heavy annual cropper of exceptionally early apples—as early as the first week of August in central Maine some years. Presumably called 'Transparent' because you practically see through the clear light yellow smooth waxy tender skin. White juicy sweetly sub-acid flesh. The soft ripe fruit makes a magnificent purée-type applesauce. You can leave the food mill on the shelf. Can be good fresh eating, but catch them when they're ripe because they don't keep more than a few hours. Best about a day on the green side. Moderately vigorous medium-to-small upcurving tree with yellowish bark and foliage. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

1214 Yellow Transparent, $19.00



Where can I taste that apple?

While we pride ourselves with our variety descriptions, there's nothing like the real thing. No words can compare to the taste. Frequently I'm asked, "Where can I taste a ….?" Here are a few suggestions.

Maine:

Visit the orchards near you. Call the Maine Dept of Ag at (207)-287-3491 or visit them on-line at getrealmaine.com for a complete list of the orchards in Maine. Many have unusual varieties. Even one or two rare finds can be worth the trip. Below are a few orchards with wonderful collections. I'm sure there are others. Don't be frustrated if you call and reach no one. Just go. By September most of them are open 6 or 7 days a week.

- Ricker Hill Orchards, Turner, Androscoggin County (207)-225-5552, www.rickerhill.com. Organic apples and more. Collection of young heirlooms includes most of the Fedco list. Some should be fruiting in a year or two.
- Sweetser's Apple Barrel and Orchards, Cumberland Center, Cumberland County (207)-829-3074, www.maineapple.com. A great collection of old and new varieties. Their pride and joy is an ancient Rolfe tree. Don't miss it.
- Bailey's Orchard, South Windsor, Lincoln County (207)-549-7680. One of the largest collections of old varieties in the state.
- Lakeside Orchards, Manchester, Kennebec County (207)-622-2479, www.lakesideorchards.com. Organic apples and a good collection of mostly new varieties.
- Rollins Orchard, Garland, Penobscot County (207)-924-3504. A very good collection of unusual old varieties.
- Sandy River Orchard, Mercer, Somerset County (207)-587-2563. Francis Fenton's huge collection of 100 or more varieties.
- The Apple Farm, Fairfield, Somerset County (207)-453-7656. A great collection of unusual old and new varieties.
- Sewall's Orchard, Lincolnville, Waldo County (207)-763-3956, www.sewallsorchard.com. Organic apples including some of the first disease resistant releases.
- Dole's Orchard, Limington, York County (207)-793-4409, www.dolesorchard.com. Mix of old and new. They have two un-named varieties crossed by the late Maine plant breeder, Russell Bailey. Both are extremely rare, if not unique.

Other States:

I know a few orchards with good collections outside of Maine. If you know of any we should list, please let us know. An internet search could direct you to an orchard nearby.

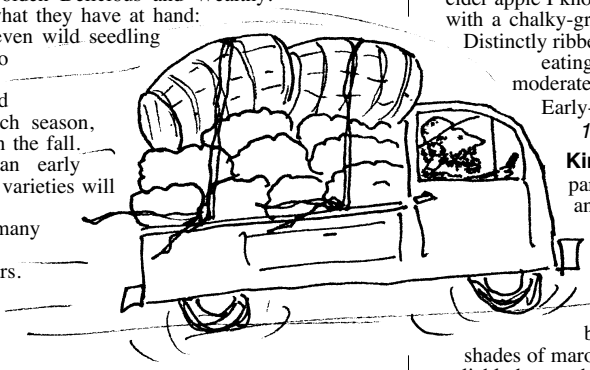
- Nashoba Valley Winery, Bolton, MA. (978)-779-5521, www.nashobawinery.com. A large collection of old and new varieties.
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA (508)-869-6111, www.towerhillbg.org. The best collection of historic varieties in New England. At last count, 119 all labeled in an arboretum-type setting. A great place to study the fruit. Usually for sale at a special event over Columbus Day weekend. Call ahead.
- Hutchins Farm, Concord, MA (978)-369-2480. Nice collection of old and mostly newer varieties.
- Gould Hill Orchard, Contoocook, NH (603)-746-3811, www.gouldhill.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH (603)-448-1511, www.povertylaneorchards.com. Likely the best collection of unusual dessert apples in New England. One of the largest collection of cider apples in the U.S. They have all the cider varieties we sell.
- Alyson's Orchard, Walpole, NH (603)-756-9090. Although I've never been there, I've heard they have an extensive collection.

Cider Apples

Cider was the most popular drink in Britain and other parts of northern Europe for hundreds of years and in the eastern U.S. until well into the 19th century. It was almost always fermented. Over here, most cider orchards were composed of nameless seedling apples, although a few varieties such as Golden Russet and Hewe's Crab were recognized as premier cider apples. In England however, there is a long tradition of cider varieties. These are NOT for fresh eating; in fact, most taste terrible. Nor are they suitable for sweet (unfermented) cider, although some might add character to a sweet cider blend. However, they all possess qualities that make them very desirable for fermented cider production, and fermented cider is what we mean by 'cider'.

The National Fruit and Cider Institute in Long Ashton, England, evaluated about 2000 cider varieties, classifying them into four categories: **sharp** (low in tannins, high in acid), **sweet** (little or no tannin, low acid), **bittersharp** (high in tannins and high acid), and **bittersweet** (high tannins and sugar, low acid, astringent, said to make the highest quality cider). **Tannin** denotes naturally occurring compounds whose bitter astringency gives cider rounded full flavor, body, and golden color. The Cider Institute also applied the term **vintage** to those varieties that possess the perfect qualities for cider.

Bittersweets don't contain enough acid to make quality single-variety ciders. Cider needs a sharp apple to provide some acid. Cidermakers blend the bittersweets with bittersharp varieties or with one of the high acid dessert apples. Among *the* most highly praised dessert apples with adequate acid levels for blending are Golden Russet, Esopus Spitzenburg, Roxbury Russet, Ashmead's Kernel, Wickson, Golden Delicious and Wealthy. Cider makers also tend to use what they have at hand: many other dessert apples—or even wild seedling fruit—may have plenty of acid to use in blends.



A well-planned cider orchard includes several varieties of each season, ripening in a progression through the fall. (It does no good to have an early bittersweet if none of your other varieties will be ripe until late October.)

Cider enthusiasts are growing many vintage apples that have been imported to the U.S. in recent years. In response to this renaissance, we offer some of the best varieties. Our thanks to Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards and Farnum Hill Cider in Lebanon, NH, for his advice and for providing us with piles of scionwood for this project. Some cider apples are in short supply. If you plan to order more than a few trees and would like to discuss availability, call or send us an email. If necessary we can custom graft larger quantities of any of these varieties.

In February 2006 MOFGA sponsored a day-long cider-making workshop led by Steve Wood and Ben Watson. We hope this will become an annual event. We also recommend two books on cider making: *Cider Hard and Sweet* by Ben Watson and *Cider, Making Using and Enjoying Sweet and Hard Cider* by Annie Proulx and Lew Nichols.

All cider apples are on standard (Antanovka) hardy seedling rootstock. (3-6' trees)

Cider apple collection A package of seven trees to begin your cider orchard. We will choose two sharps or bittersharps and five bittersweets for each collection. The seven trees will include at least six different varieties. **ME Grown.**

1270 Cider Apple Collection, bundle of 7, $110.00

Ashton Bitter Early Fall. Full bittersweet. (Dabinett x Stoke Red) Long Ashton, England, 1950s. Originally introduced by GT Spinks, Long Ashton's plant breeder. Resurrected from an old trial orchard and planted extensively in recent years. Medium-sized round opaque-orange-yellow fruit, blushed and striped with rich red. Very juicy and very astringent. A mix of half Ashtons and half a blend of Golden Russet, Nodhead, Stark and Golden Delicious produced a really nice clear amber-colored dry tasty, ever so slightly bitter cider in our 2005-6 trials. I was impressed. Ripens in early fall but we pressed in late October and the fruit was fine. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1273 Ashton Bitter, $19.00

Chisel Jersey Late Fall. Full bittersweet. Martock, Somerset, England, 19th c. One of the most famous of the Somerset bittersweets. Round-to slightly conic fruit. A beautiful combination of dull opaque reds, yellows and russets. In old English *chesil* means pebble. Chisel Jersey is small, hard and bitter! I attempted to eat one and quickly found that its "wooliness" rendered it nearly impossible to chew. Good sugar content, medium acidity, and slow to medium fermentation. Highly astringent, harsh and high in tannins. Our 50-50 blend produced a clear slightly-sweet cider with no bitterness. Very good. Spreading tree may require encouragement to develop a strong central leader. Consistent cropper. Closely related to Dabinett; they should not be relied upon to pollinate one another. Late bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1281 Chisel Jersey, $19.00

Dabinett Late Fall. Medium bittersweet. Probably a seedling of Chisel Jersey, Middle Lambrook, Somerset, England. Most popular cider variety in Somerset today and the mainstay of Poverty Lane's cider orchard. At the MOFGA cider workshop, Steve Woods told us, "If you're going to plant one bittersweet, plant this one." Medium-sized roundish fruit covered with sooty brownish brick-red stripes and blush. Looks rotten even when perfectly firm and ripe. Dense astringent juicy flesh. Sugar content fair and fermentation moderate. High quality and well-balanced low-acid cider with a soft-tasting tannin. Picked last week of October, blend with other late varieties. Crops regularly. Grower-friendly tree with a spreading drooping habit, may require help in developing a strong central leader. Not pollen compatible with Chisel Jersey. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1285 Dabinett, $19.00

Ellis Bitter Early Fall. Medium bittersweet. Newton St Cyres, Devon, Somerset, England. Very useful for early-mid fall cider. Medium-sized oddly conic—noticeably ribbed—yellowish-green largely red-blushed fruit with darker red stripes. On first glance, quite similar to Dabinett, though not so brown. The flesh is unpleasantly sweet, very astringent, soft and very juicy. Fast-growing large spreading vigorous tree produces regularly. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1289 Ellis Bitter, $19.00

Foxwhelp Fall. Bittersharp. According to Steve, the famous original 400-year-old Foxwhelp of yore has long disappeared. No one has it anymore on either side of the Atlantic. Not only that, but no one knows the origin of this "new" Foxwhelp. However it is an excellent bittersharp. The largest cider apple I know. As big as a good-sized Cortland. Blocky-roundish shape with a chalky-greenish-yellow skin, light pink-red stripes and some blush. Distinctly ribbed. Very juicy and tart. Surprisingly makes for decent fresh eating. Blend it in the barrel with the fall bittersweets. Considered moderately vigorous and a good cropper. High specific gravity. Early-season bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1293 Foxwhelp, $19.00

Kingston Black Midseason. Bittersharp. Unknown parentage. Somerset, England, early 19th c. High in tannin and high in acidity. Produces full-bodied distinctively flavored vintage cider with a nice blend of acid, tannins and sugar. Ferment it alone or in a blend. One of the few varieties which makes a high-quality *single variety* hard cider. We've become fans of Farnum Hill's tasty Kingston Black varietal. Medium-sized conical beautiful rich red fruit, mottled with red russet and deeper shades of maroon (but not black!). Fairly decent fresh eating. The tree is a reliable bearer, but is gangly and needs careful pruning. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1301 Kingston Black, $19.00

Major Early Fall. Full bittersweet. Probably originating in central Somerset County, England, before 1900. Medium-sized somewhat attractive pinkish-red bulging-conic fruit with an obscure striped overlay. The flesh is soft, juicy and bitter. Combine with other early varieties. Vigorous tree with a good central leader and a spreading branching habit. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1309 Major, $19.00

Somerset Redstreak Early Fall. Medium bittersweet. Old variety from the Sutton Montis area, Somerset, England. Frequently planted in newer British cider orchards. Medium-sized conic fruit, striped and blushed shiny red. The sides are somewhat streaked with red though not like St Lawrence. Steve call this "a lovely apple." Very juicy and astringent. Considered a heavy cropper. Picked mid-late September in central New Hampshire. Tree has an upright growth habit, may require heading back the central leader in early years to develop strong lateral branches. Strongly biennial. Not precocious. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1325 Somerset Redstreak, $19.00

Stoke Red Late Fall. Bittersharp. Also called Neverblight. May have orginated in Rodney Stoke or near Wedmore, Somerset, England. Medium-sized round-conic fruit covered with dark red radiating stripes that blend into a nearly-solid glowing red and pink blush. Some russet dots and netting. Very attractive. Sharp juice with some astringency. Very sharp cider. Consistent heavy cropper and a reputation in the U.K. for resistance to pests and disease. (That's over there, mind you.) Late bloomer. Pick late in the fall and combine with other late varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1329 Stoke Red, $19.00

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium bittersweet. Yarlington, near North Cadbury, Somerset, England, 1898. Once common in farm orchards of central Somerset. Steve's other favorite bittersweet. Medium-sized yellow conical fruit with a pinkish blush and over-spreading darker red stripes. Considered an all-round excellent variety, reliable, productive and adaptable to varying conditions. Rich brown low-acid mild lovely aromatic fruity cider, not aggressively tannic. Above-average sugar content. Slow to medium fermentation. Somewhat gangly tree with a lot of blind (non-productive) wood. You may need to head back the leader in early years to encourage strong laterals. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

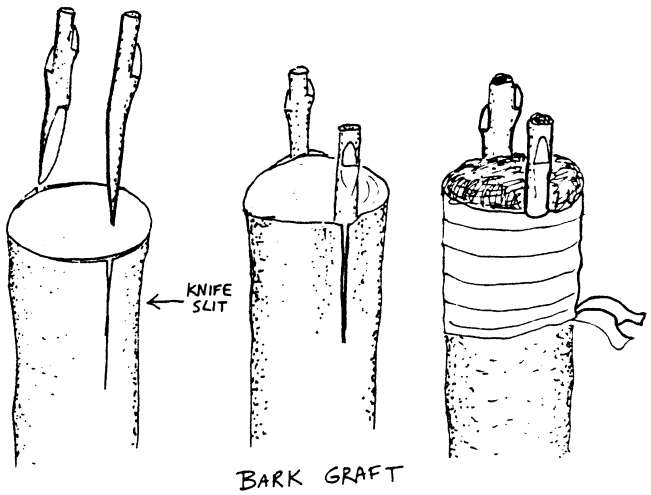
1337 Yarlington Mill, $19.00

Scionwood We offer scionwood from a wide selection of fruit trees including many listed in this catalog. Price is $3.00 per stick (about 8") plus shipping. To order scionwood or rootstock for early shipment, send us a SASE requesting a scionwood order form or download it from the Fedco Trees website. Deadline for ordering scionwood and rootstock for early shipment is February 23, 2007. We will ship around March 28.

Hardy Rootstocks We consider these to be some of the best rootstocks for home or commercial use. Any of these produces fruit suitable for wildlife without grafting. For rootstocks not listed, or for larger calipers or larger quantities, please write for information. We also offer grafting supplies in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed Catalog.

You may order rootstock to be shipped around March 28. To do so, use the scionwood order form obtained by requesting it with a SASE or downloading it from our website. Rootstock ordered on the regular order form in this catalog will be shipped with the rest of the Tree order in April.

Please join us Saturday, March 24, 2007, at the Maine Tree Crop Alliance annual scionwood exchange and grafting workshop in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity. MOFGA also offers a full range of organic orcharding classes; see page 58 and the MOFGA website for details.



***Malus* 'Antanovka'** (Apple) Hardy Russian seedling rootstock for standard-sized apple trees. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1350 Malus antanovka, bundle of 10, $16.50

EMLA 26 (Apple) Produces a tree about half the size of a standard tree, in between the size of M9 and M7. Appears to be hardier than M7, producing better quality fruit. Adaptable to all but badly drained soils, not as sensitive to mineral deficiencies as some rootstocks. Staking recommended in exposed locations. Z5, maybe 4. (1/4" caliper)

1370 EMLA 26, bundle of 10, $28.00

Prunus americana (Plum) Seedling rootstock for American, Japanese or hybrid plums. Seedling plum produces very decent 1" fruit without grafting. The best pollinator for hybrid plums. See explanation in plum section on page 19. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1384 Prunus americana, bundle of 10, $16.50

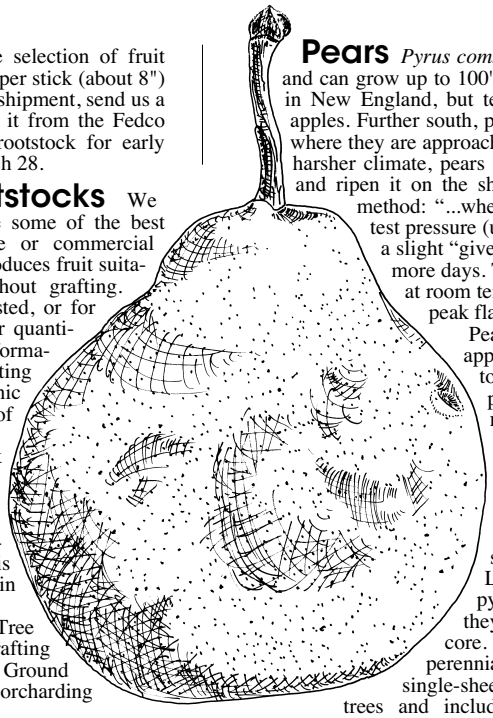
***Prunus cerasifera* 'Myrobalan'** (Plum) Seedling rootstock for European type plums. Not recommended for American or hybrid plums. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1388 Prunus cerasifera Myrobalan, bundle of 10, $16.50

Pyrus communis (Pear) Seedling rootstock for pears. Exceptional resistance to pear decline. Good uniformity. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1400 Pyrus communis, bundle of 10, $16.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.



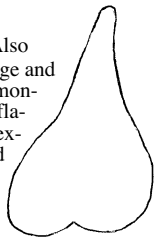
Pears *Pyrus communis* are native to temperate Europe and Asia and can grow up to 100' tall in the wild. Many pear varieties are hardy in New England, but tend to take longer to come into bearing than apples. Further south, pears tend to bear annually. However in Maine, where they are approaching their northern limit and due perhaps to our harsher climate, pears tend to bear biennially. Pick fruit when green and ripen it on the shelf. Or, for optimal eating, try Ed Fackler's method: "...when fruits exhibit slight color changes, begin to test pressure (using your thumb) near the stem. When there is a slight "give," pick all the fruit, store at or near 35˚ for 7 or more days. Then remove them as needed, allow them to sit at room temps for 2-4 days which allows them to ripen to peak flavor."

Pear blossoms are less attractive to bees than apple blossoms, so pears should be planted closer together to ensure pollination. Although some pears appear to be self-pollinating, **we recommend a second variety for pollination**. Bloom dates for all varieties are similar. Plant pear trees 15-20' apart. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Atlantic Queen Late Summer-Early Fall. Old French variety. *Very* large melting juicy sweet aromatic yellow-green dessert fruit. Looks like a big chubby obovate obtuse pyriform Bartlett. When they're perfectly ripe, they are hard to beat. You may want to eat the core. For years I wondered about this pear perennially featured in the Henry Leuthardt Nurseries single-sheet "catalog." Leuthardt specialized in espaliered trees and included discoveries from around Long Island, including this pear. A couple years ago I visited a friend who actually *had* one of Leuthardt's espaliered Atlantic Queens *and* it was fruiting *that* very day. I left with two pears. Cammy and I sampled them a day or two later. They were delicious, as good as any pears I ate that fall. The rest is history. I was able to procure wood from said tree and we are now offering it. Might keep in the fridge for a week or two if you don't eat them first. Z4 if protected. **ME Grown.**

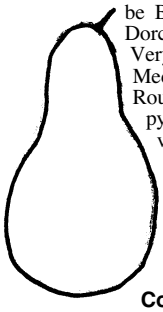
1455 Atlantic Queen, $19.00

Bosc Fall. Seedling in Lourain, Belgium, 1807. Also called **Beurre Bosc**. Oblong acute pyriform, or large and long-necked; dark rich yellow covered with cinnamon-brown russet. Distinctive sweet rich spicy buttery flavor. Melting juicy tender white flesh has smooth texture and a pleasing aroma. Somewhat gritty around the core. Good pollinator. Large vigorous upright spreading tree bears huge crops annually. A long-time favorite throughout central Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.**



1474 Bosc, $19.00

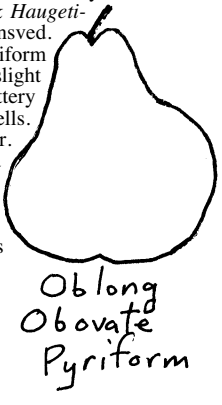
Clapp Favorite Mid-Late Summer. Said to be Bartlett x Flemish Beauty. Dorchester, MA, before 1860.



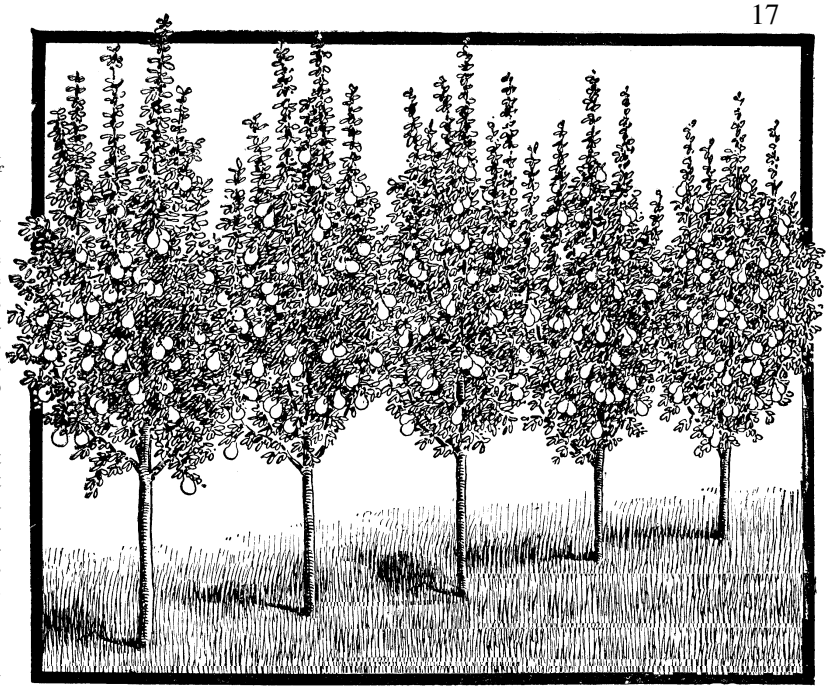
Very hardy pear common in Maine for over 100 years. Medium-large fruit is pale lemon yellow, mottled bright red. Round-bodied with a short neck. Obovate ovate slightly obtuse pyriform! Medium-firm fine-textured with granular center, very juicy melting sweet fruit with that absolutely perfect "pear flavor" for fresh eating. Pick before completely ripe and finish indoors (tendency to soften at the center after ripening). Our scionwood comes from an ancient tree on Earland and Helen Goodhue's farm in Sidney. Z4. **ME Grown.**

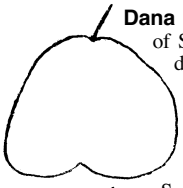
1488 Clapp Favorite, $19.00

Comptesse Clara Frijs Late Summer. Denmark, 19th c. Very old high-quality dessert pear, first described in 1858 by JA Bentzien in the Danish garden journal *Dansk Haugetidende* and thought to be from the village of Skensved. Medium-sized yellowy-green oblong-obovate-pyriform rather thick-skinned fruit sometimes with a very slight pink blush—more like a spot of rouge. The buttery aromatic flesh is firm but not crisp with no grit cells. Juicy but not dripping. You can eat it in the car. You can eat it right down to nothing. Keeps for a month. Solid rugged hardy tree. Many thanks to Jim Ozzello for sending us an article on Clara Frijs. Now we have a clearer picture of its orgins. Jim rates it in the top two of the 22 varieites he grows in Wisconsin. Z4. **ME Grown.**



1496 Comptesse Clara Frijs, $19.00





Dana Hovey Winter. Thought to be a seedling of Seckel. Roxbury, MA, about 1854. Introduced by nineteenth-century fruit enthusiast Francis Dana who dubbed it *Dana's Hovey* in honor of CM Hovey, Boston nurseryman and author of *The Fruits of America*. Sometimes called **Winter Seckel** because of its similarity to Seckel. Small obovate-obtuse-pyriform intensely sweet highly aromatic tender storage pear. Excellent flavor; possibly the best eating of all winter pears. Keeps extremely well. Harvest in October and store in a cool dry spot. Still great eating in December—sometimes even as late as February. Rich golden-yellow russeted fruit. Hardy vigorous moderately productive spreading tree adapts to a variety of soils. No scab and relatively few bugs. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1502 Dana Hovey, $19.00

Early Pear Midsummer. Unknown parentage. Germany. Dessert and cooking pear ripens in mid-August in central Maine. The earliest pear we know. Last summer I ate two on August 10th. Medium-sized yellow-green obtuse obovate pyriform fruit with a large red blush. On the tree, the fruit looks solid red. Perfumy melting juicy flesh. Best dessert quality at the firm stage, solid but not crisp. Ripens unevenly so you can eat them over time. But don't let them soften; they'll be inedible. The tree has a very vertical habit—think: Lombardy poplar. Z4.

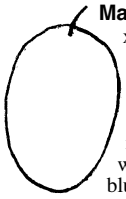
1519 Early Pear, $19.00

Kasper's Winter Late Fall-Winter. Frankendorf, Germany. Very good tough-skinned storage pear will keep until April in the root cellar. Coarse flesh with a good flavor. Very hard off the tree; don't eat it until a month after picking. Greenish-mottled medium-small pyriform fruit with some russet splashes or dots. Years ago this nameless winter pear found its way from the roadside near Frankendorf to Unity, ME. The name came later, courtesy of grower Howard Wulf who calls it "the latest keeping pear I've ever seen." Study adaptable hardy tree. Precocious. Z4.

1538 Kasper's Winter, $19.00

Luscious Early Fall. (SD E31 x Ewart) SD State U, 1967. One of the few recent pear introductions that deserves a place in the home orchard. Produces annual crops of absolutely delicious medium-sized oblong-obovate-pyriform fruit. Bears so heavily that it's apt to break branches. The soft fine extra-juicy off-white flesh is sweet and flavorful with almost no grit cells. Thin yellowish skin is covered with small tan dots. Appears to be self-pollinating. Although some literature warns it will not pollinate other pears, I wouldn't exclude it from my orchard. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1547 Luscious, $19.00

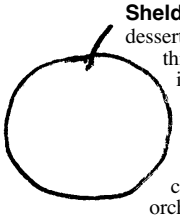


Magness Late Summer. US 3866-E [Giant Seckel (SP149490) x Doyenne du Comice] USDA, 1960. Generally considered to be unequaled in flavor and quality. Rich, melting, buttery, juicy, sugary, tender, highly perfumed and aromatic with almost no grit cells. Renowned plant breeder Elwin Meader rated Magness as the standard by which to judge other pears in taste and quality. Medium-sized fruit is greenish-yellow with a light dull-bronze russeting, sometimes a crimson blush, and a short pyriform—almost oval—shape. Vigorous spreading tree. Will not pollinate other varieties. Fruit set can be inconsistent. Some insect resistance and excellent fire blight resistance. Keeps more than two months with refrigeration. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1552 Magness, $19.00

Seckel Late Summer. Seedling near Philadelphia, PA, early 1800s. Sometimes called **Sugar Pear**. Usually considered the best-flavored of all pears; even the skin is delicious. Small obovate fruit is yellowish-brown russeted with slight red blush. Juicy, spicy, distinctive and aromatic. Eat ripe off the tree or pick firm and ripen later. Very productive annual-bearing large tree, easy to grow. *The* most reliably bearing fruit tree I have. Scab and fireblight resistant. Will not pollinate Bartlett. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1602 Seckel, $19.00

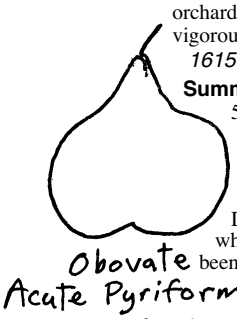


Sheldon Fall-Winter. Huron, NY, about 1815. Superb dessert, cooking and storage pear. At first glance you might think the medium-sized turbinate (roundish) fruit with its greenish-golden russeted ruddy-blushed skin is an Asian pear. But you would be wrong. Sheldon's longtime fame sprang from its tender melting juicy very sweet absolutely delicious aromatic flesh. No crispy watery "Asian crunch" to this pear. Once fairly common in New York and New England home orchards and root cellars though never commercially popular. Large vigorous very long-lived hardy tree. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1606 Sheldon, $19.00

Stacyville Late Summer. Unknown origin. Stacyville, ME. Medium-sized obovate-obtuse-pyriform pears are light yellow with a beautiful orange to greyish-red blush. The sweet fruit has a delicious citrusy aftertaste. My tree began producing only a few years after planting. Now at age 15, it produces large crops of fruit annually. Many years ago friends told me about the pear and insisted that I make the trip to Stacyville in southern Aroostook County. When I finally saw it myself, I thought that the 50' tall vase-shaped tree was an elm. It was spectacular, dwarfing the surrounding apple trees. That tree, held together with cables, was extremely old but still bearing huge crops. I don't know if it's still standing. Appears to be self-pollinating in my orchard. Disease resistant, extremely hardy and very vigorous. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1615 Stacyville, $19.00

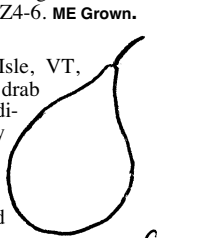


Summercrisp Midsummer. MN N33201 (Gaspard No. 5), unknown parentage. U Minn, 1986. Brought to the Minnesota Horticultural Research Station by John Gaspard in 1933. Large obovate acute pyriform very sweet dessert and canning pear with green skin and a red blush ripens in August in Maine. A favorite of Donna and Chyp of Loon Song Farm in Hartland who bought one from us nearly 20 years ago and have been Summercrisp fans ever since. One reason Donna likes it is it comes on when you're looking for fruit, early in the season. "They're best crisp before they get supermarket soft." In fact, once they do soften, they go by fast. They eat them fresh, can them in quarters and juice the rest. The juice is so sweet, Donna told me she has to cut it with apple juice when she's canning it or it will get fizzy and explode. Precocious, annually bearing tree, medium-sized with typically conic habit. Long considered the hardiest variety in the Minnesota collection. Free from fireblight. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1620 Summercrisp, $19.00

Tyson Summer. Jenkintown, PA, about 1794. Widely planted in Maine for generations. After years of looking for a good source of grafting wood for this pear, we finally located a huge ancient tree in nearby Freedom. Well over 100 years old, the tree has lived through all the great winters of the 20th century. The definitive 1921 text *The Pears of New York* calls Tyson's flavor "second only to Seckel," and says that the "tree is the most nearly perfect of any pear grown in America." Went out of favor because it was not as large or pretty as Bartlett. Medium-sized acute pyriform deep dull-yellow fruit with some russeting and no blush is very juicy, sweet and aromatic. Very large vigorous annually productive upright spreading tree. Tolerant of bugs, disease and weather. Fire-blight resistant. Rare. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1638 Tyson, $19.00

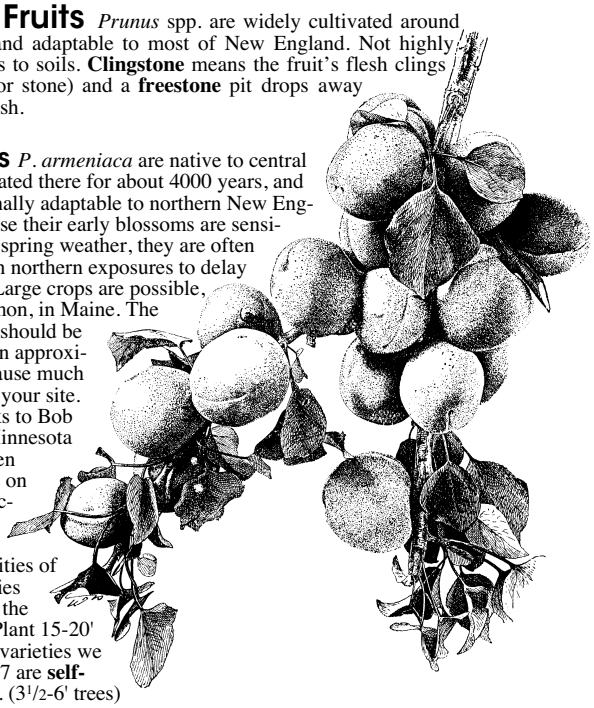


Vermont Beauty Fall. Chance seedling. Grand Isle, VT, about 1860. Most of the high quality pears are rather drab ugly beasts. Vermont Beauty is an exception. The medium-sized obovate acute-pyriform fruit is an alluringly attractive cheerful lemon yellow with a bright red blush that fades into pinkish-red dots. But don't let the good looks freak you out. The yellow-tinged flesh is tender, melting, smooth, dense, fine-grained and juicy, with very few grit cells. Excellent dessert pear that ripens after Seckel and keeps for 5 or 6 weeks. Medium-to-large healthy productive vigorous upright spreading tree. Susceptible to scab. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1645 Vermont Beauty, $19.00

Stone Fruits

Prunus spp. are widely cultivated around the world and adaptable to most of New England. Not highly particular as to soils. **Clingstone** means the fruit's flesh clings to the pit (or stone) and a **freestone** pit drops away from the flesh.



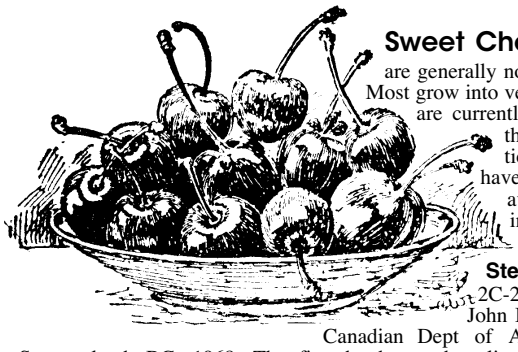
Apricots *P. armeniaca* are native to central Asia, cultivated there for about 4000 years, and only marginally adaptable to northern New England. Because their early blossoms are sensitive to cold spring weather, they are often planted with northern exposures to delay blooming. Large crops are possible, but uncommon, in Maine. The zone rating should be viewed as an approximation because much depends on your site. Many thanks to Bob Purvis of Minnesota who has been coaching us on apricot selection. We will have small quantities of other varieties available at the Tree Sale. Plant 15-20' apart. Both varieties we offer in 2007 are **self-pollinating**. (3½-6' trees)

Puget Gold Summer. Originally called Cougar Gold. Chance seedling, possibly of 'Perfection'. Discovered in Anacortes, WA, by Jean Copeland. U of WA intro, 1987. Large (1⅜-2") roundish-ovate clear yellow red-blushed fruit. Dense firm sweet deep orange-yellow freestone flesh is good to excellent fresh eating, drying or canning. Prolific. The blossoms are more frost-tolerant than those of many apricots; disease resistance is above average. Ripens relatively late, about September 1st in central Maine. Moderately vigorous spreading tree will grow to about 15x15'. Offered with the encouragement of Downeast (coastal) Maine grower Richard "Ozzie" Ossolinski: "Whereas not every PG that I have planted for clients has performed as well as those in my own orchard, I continue to recommend (and plant) it for those who are looking for a low (i.e. no) maintenance tree from which they might actually harvest some decent fruit." Warmer Z5. **ME Grown.**

1810 Puget Gold, $19.00

Westcot Mid-Late Summer. Scout x McClure. Introduced by Les Kerr, Morden, Manitoba, Canada, 1982. 1½" roundish yellow-orange fruit with a red blush. Smooth juicy freestone flesh with a mild sweet flavor. Fresh eating or processing. Retains its shape when cooked. Vigorous productive tree is upright to spreading, irregularly shaped, about 15' wide and 20' tall. Ripens earlier than Puget Gold. Should be hardy in Z5. **ME Grown.**

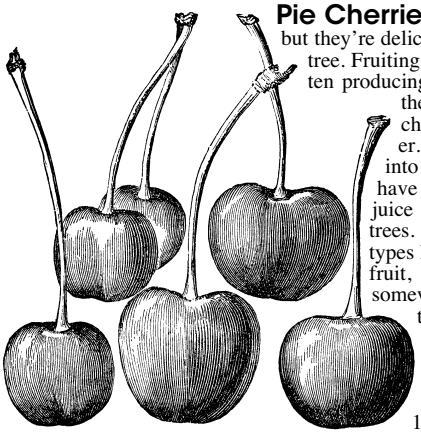
1840 Westcot, $19.00



Sweet Cherries *P. avium* are generally not hardy in Maine. Most grow into very large trees. We are currently testing some of the hardiest varieties and hope to have more of them available in upcoming years.

Stella Mid-summer. 2C-27-19 (Lambert x John Innes Sdlg. 2420). Canadian Dept of Ag Research Stn, Summerland, BC, 1968. The first hardy good-quality self-fertile sweet cherry. Large heart-shaped black-skinned fruit has juicy medium-firm black flesh. May be a disappointment to sweet cherry aficionados from the Northwest but could be like a dream come true for orchardists living in more tropical locales of Maine. Fruit buds are relatively tender. Upright spreading vigorous productive tree will grow to 25-30'. Self-pollinating. Z4. (3½-6' trees).

1910 Stella Sweet Cherry, $19.00



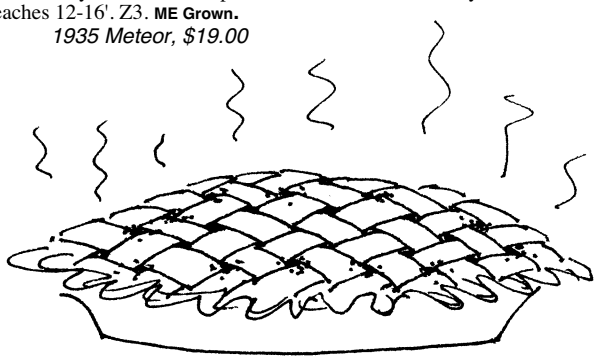
Pie Cherries *P. cerasus* are called "sour," but they're delicious enough to eat right off the tree. Fruiting in early to midsummer and often producing crops in the 3rd or 4th year, they're easier to grow than sweet cherries, and significantly hardier. They are generally divided into two groups: Morello types have dark red spherical fruit, dark juice and relatively small compact trees. Montmorency (or Amarelle) types have light red slightly flattened fruit, clear juice and medium-sized somewhat open trees. Although the trees are fully hardy in Zone 3, flower buds may be damaged in colder winters. **Pie cherries do not require another variety for pollination**. Plant 15-20' apart. (3½-6' trees)

Evans Mid-Late Summer. Unknown parentage. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Also called **Bali**. Rescued from obscurity in 1976 by Dr. Ieuan Evans for whom it was named. Thought to have been brought to Alberta by early settlers from Minnesota. Known in the Edmonton area at least back to 1923 but only recently gaining widespread attention through the efforts of Dr. Evans and, more recently, Bill MacKentley of St. Lawrence Nurseries. Currently the best-selling fruit tree on the Canadian prairie. Incredibly hardy, possibly even to Zone 2. Large—even huge—crops of English Morello-type fruit virtually every year. Excellent eating, jams, jellies, pies, dark red juice and wine. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, although light fertile soils are preferred. Largely untested in Maine—we're working on that now. Naturally dwarf tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1927 Evans, $19.00

Meteor Summer. MN 66 (Montmorency x Vladimir) U Minn, 1952. Considered superior to Montmorency. Very good eating right off the tree. Also excellent for pies, canning and freezing. Easy to pit. Excellent dried. Bright scarlet-red roundish-oval fruit. Clear bright yellow flesh and clear juice. Mildly acid flavor. Ripens after Northstar: mid-July in Central Maine. Reaches 12-16'. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1935 Meteor, $19.00



YOU MAY NEED TO PRACTICE
TO GET THAT PERFECT CHERRY PIE WEAVE

Montmorency Summer. Seedling of Cerise Hative or Cerise Commune. Montmorency Valley, France, before 1600. Introduced to the U.S. about 1830. The most famous of all pie cherries. Not widely grown in Europe or Russia but long the standard of excellence in the U.S. Firm-fleshed bright red fruit makes a clear light pink juice. Although generally considered not as hardy as our other offerings, friends are growing and fruiting it quite successfully in northern Aroostook County, so it is hardy. Vigorous productive medium-sized upright-spreading tree tolerates a variety of soils. Parent of the fine variety Meteor. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1940 Montmorency, $19.00

Northstar Summer. MN 58 (English Morello x Serbian Pie #1) U Minn, 1950. Morello-type cherry can be eaten fresh when ripe. Large roundish heart-shaped fruit with a small stone. Dark glistening mahogany-red skin. Dark red meaty tender juicy flesh has pleasantly acid flavor. Very productive. A natural dwarf reaching 9-10'. Resistant to brown rot and cracking. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1950 Northstar, $19.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Peaches *P. persica* Although many people will tell you not to bother growing peaches in Maine, if you've been repeatedly saddened by the poor quality available in the supermarket, what's there to lose? Many trees in northern New England produce large crops. While these are certainly not like what you'd get if you went to Georgia, they still taste awfully good. They bear young and so heavily that they may break branches if unthinned or unsupported. Peaches are usually unaffected by pests or diseases in northern areas. The trees may also die unexpectedly at any age. There are no truly hardy peach cultivars, although Reliance is considered the hardiest. **Peach trees do not need a second variety for pollination**. Plant 15-20' apart. (3½-6' trees)

Garnet Beauty Summer. Sport of Red Haven. Ruthven, Ontario, 1958. A mutation (sport) of Red Haven discovered by Garnet Bruner in 1951 and introduced seven years later. Medium to large yellow-fleshed semi-clingstone fruit with excellent flavor. Ripens 12 days earlier than Red Haven with similar hardiness. Vigorous and productive tree. Good bud hardiness. Recommended for colder disticts. Z5.

1978 Garnet Beauty, $19.00

Lars Anderson Summer. Uncertain origin. Pastor Chuck Orchards, Cushing, ME. Large juicy sweet yellow-fleshed fruit. Brought to my attention several years ago by Lars Anderson's son-in-law Waite Maclin (AKA Pastor Chuck). Waite described the fruit as "tasting just like a peach should taste. When I give them away to friends and neighbors they think the peaches have been purchased in the south." Planted by Lars Anderson on the Maine coast about 40 years ago. Lars died in 1981 but the family continued to maintain the peach. In 1982 a huge Nor'easter hit Cushing and the tree was blown to the ground, cracking in the middle. Waite propped up the tree on cinder blocks, repaired the crack with tree wound paint and wrapped it in duct tape. It lived through that winter and began to thrive. This is one tough peach. The family is able to harvest 3 bushels of fruit every year. We are currently testing Lars Anderson in Zone 4, but for now, it should be considered a Zone 5 plant. *In short supply; order early*. **ME Grown.**

1987 Lars Anderson, $19.00

POLES OR LUMBER PROP UP SAGGING LIMBS
BRANCHES MIGHT NOT BREAK

Madison Summer. (Ideal x Red Haven) VA Station, 1963. A fine peach for the North, with hardiness similar to Red Haven. Medium-large fruit with bright orange skin and bright red blush. Orange-yellow firm fine-textured juicy flesh with excellent very sweet rich peach flavor. Very good quality. Skin peels easily. Freestone, excellent canner. Very productive tree. Exceptional tolerance to blossom-season frost. Z5.

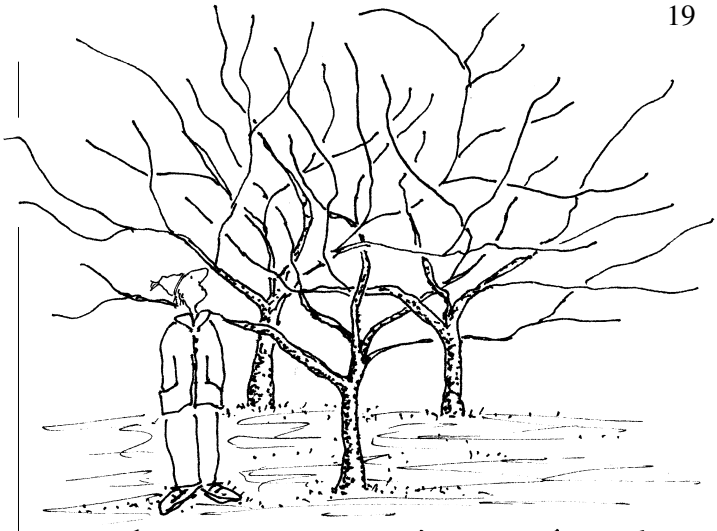
1990 Madison, $19.00

Red Haven Summer. (Halehaven x Kalhaven) MI Ag Exp Station, 1940. Considered hardy, but not as hardy as Reliance. Medium-sized round fruit with beautiful red and golden-yellow skin and sweet firm fine-textured yellow flesh. Non-browning. Excellent for eating, freezing, canning, shipping. Probably the best-flavored peach we offer; also the world's most widely planted freestone peach. Hardy buds; vigorous highly productive disease-resistant spreading trees are tolerant to bacterial spot. Z5-6.

2005 Red Haven, $19.00

Reliance Summer. Open-pollinated seedling of Minn PHO 4559 x Meredith. NH Ag Exp Station, 1964. Considered the hardiest peach. Medium-sized, roundish, freestone. Rather dull red blush over greenish yellow. Bright yellow flesh, soft and juicy. Flavor usually considered fair, but those who grow it in Maine love it. Often produces large crops. Bears at an early age. Appears to be resistant to peach leaf curl in our trials. Z5.

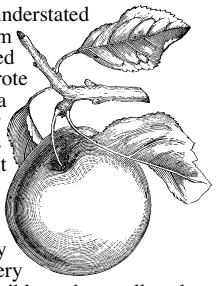
2010 Reliance, $19.00



THE INTERTWINING HYBRID PLUM JUMBLE
MEANS MORE FRUIT IN SEPTEMBER

Hybrid Plums *Prunus* spp., are extremely hardy crosses between various Asian plums and American species for hardiness.

Hybrid plum pollination has been glossed over—or avoided—in virtually all catalogs and fruit-growing literature for generations. Some years on our farm we get decent crops, but most years we don't get nearly enough. We have tried a number of different strategies as Fedco catalog readers will know. We still recommend planting the trees close enough together for the branches to "co-mingle." However a recent article by Rick Sawazky of the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, may provide the breakthrough we've all been searching for:



"Most writers have overlooked or significantly understated the pollination requirements for growing good plum crops. The exception is George F. Chipman who edited the *Prairie Gardener* for many years and who wrote about plum pollination in 1934. He summarized a study done by Prof. W.H. Alderman at the University of Minnesota by saying, '…very few hybrid plums would accept pollen freely from other hybrids, but they all accept pollen from native plums.'"

Our own suspicions, as well as our experiments, appear to corroborate this view. Simply by planting native plum pollinators among the hybrids, it may prove possible to produce large regular crops with very little effort. Hooray! Of course, plums are still susceptible to the small pesky insect, plum curculio. But PC is not difficult to control organically with Surround (see the Organic Growers section of the Seed Catalog). And, with decent pollination, Surround may not even be necessary. Toka, South Dakota and Kaga are often recommended as the best pollinators. We also recommend planting *Prunus americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings in the orchard as pollinators. Stay tuned for more developments. Bloom times similar for all varieties. Not susceptible to black knot. (3½-6' trees)

American Plum Seedling *P. americana* 15-20' Seedling plum that grows in thickets and produces very decent red, yellow and orange 1" fruit, suitable for fresh eating, canning and freezing. Spectacular white bloom in spring. Red fall color. Plant singly as a graceful specimen or plant 2-3' apart and let the branches intertwine for maximum pollination. May be the best pollinator for hybrid plums. See above. We are looking for stands of pure *P. americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings. If you know of any, please let us know! Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 plum trees, within 10' of each of them. Extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2028 American Plum, $19.00

Delton's American Plum *P. a* 15-20' Recommended pollinator for hybrid plums. These trees are grafted from selections of thicket plums in Dexter, ME. Grower Delton Curtis has had good luck using these as pollinators for hybrid plums, although they may not be pure *P. americana*. Plant one of these *or* one of the *P. americana* seedlings (#**2028**) for every 3 or 4 hybrid plum trees, within 10' of each of them. See the explanation above. Extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2029 Delton's American Plum, $19.00

Cocheco Summer. Purple Heart x unnamed red leaf plum. Elwin Meader introduction. Rochester, NH, c 1968. In a long *Maine Sunday Telegram* article on September 8, 1968, Meader said, "It's an example of being able to have your cake and eat it. The new tree is beautiful enough to be an ornamental. It also has delicious fruit and windbreak value." Red twigs and buds in winter. A blizzard of nickel-sized light pink flowers in spring. Glossy red foliage all summer long. 1¼" red-orange-skinned fruit filled with soft sweet pinkish translucent jelly-like flesh. Relatively large tree with an upright growth habit. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2041 Cocheco, $19.00

Gracious Late Summer. Mandan 41-15 [open-pollinated seedling of Emerald (*P. salicina* Burbank x *P. a.* Brittlewood) probably x Red Wing (*P. sal.* Burbank x *P. a. mollis* Wolf)]. Northern Great Plains Field Station, Mandan, ND, 1957. Oval-to-roundish yellow-orange fruit with coral-red mottling. Yellow-orange firm juicy sweet flesh. Freestone. Although there are still many plums I've yet to taste, this one rates with Purple Heart as one of my two favorites. A supremely excellent fresh-eating plum. Even with a heavy crop, it's hard to have any left over for its excellent sauce or jam. Upright spreading tree. Rare. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2051 Gracious, $19.00

Kahinta Mid-Late Summer. Luther Burbank's *P. sal.* Apple x *P. a.* Terry. SD, 1912. Introduced by the great plant breeder NE Hansen using the same parentage as another excellent plum, Waneta (#**2117**), and similar to it. Large 1 1/2" roundish slightly pointed fruit, flattened at the stem end. Tart brilliant red-purple skin and tart but quite flavorful translucent yellow-orange flesh. Easy to peel; peeled fruit looks like a peeled tangerine. Or you can bite a small hole in the skin and suck out the juicy flesh. Clingstone. Very good for fresh eating or canning. Medium-sized spreading tree. Kept pruned, my 20-year-old tree remains about 8' tall. Bears more reliably than most other varieties in my orchard. *Kahinta* is the Sioux word for 'sweep.' Rare. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2060 Kahinta, $19.00

Purple Heart Late Summer. Unknown parentage, from Enfield, NH. Brought to the great plant breeder, Professor EM Meader, by a man who passed away before Meader could ascertain its origin. Becomes a favorite of anyone who grows it. Medium-sized fruit with red-purple skin and flesh, and a delicate but full sweet flavor. The most delicious plum we grow. You'll have to fend off ravenous neighbors when the Purple Hearts are ripe. Flowers are able to withstand spring frosts. Excellent shape, easy to pick, productive and healthy tree. Shows tip damage following colder winters. Not as hardy as other hybrids. Has shown susceptility to black knot in our orchard. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

2085 Purple Heart, $19.00

South Dakota Late Summer. SD 27. (Unknown parentage, probably *P. americana* or *P. sal.* x *P. a.*) U Minn/SD Ag Exp Sta, 1949. Because of its long flowering period and American parentage, we recommend South Dakota as a pollinator for hybrid plums. In my orchard it's still blooming when the other plums have dropped their flowers. Small-medium-sized fruit has tough yellow skin with bright red blush. Medium-firm yellow flesh is meaty, juicy, sweet. Developed by the great plant breeder NE Hansen sometime before 1907, and taken by one of his students to the breeding program in Minnesota where it was later introduced. Freestone. Vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2096 South Dakota, $19.00

Superior Late Summer. MN 194 [*P. sal.* 'Burbank' x 'Kaga' (*P. a.* x *P. simonii*)] U Minn, 1933. Very large conical dark red plum with a heavy bloom and 'superior' dessert quality. Firm sweet yellow flesh is smooth textured, extremely juicy and clingstone. Very good fresh eating. During the terribly cold wet summer of 2004 when a number of my younger plum trees were hammered with brown rot, my Superior came through unharmed. I was impressed. Has a gigantic crop on it this year: stay tuned for a full report! Precocious production, vigorous tree. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2100 Superior, $19.00

Tecumseh Midsummer. (Shiro x *P. hortulana* Surprise) SD Stn, 1923. Considered by some enthusiasts to be one of NE Hansen's best introductions. Excellent fresh eating. Round-ovate bright red fruit with a bluish bloom. Firm juicy subacid yellow flesh. Named in honor of the great Shawnee Chief Tecumseh who refused to sign the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. Recently I read that some years later the legendary chief predicted—and some say precipitated—the three devastating earthquakes of December 1811 and early 1812, thought to be the worst quakes ever to strike North America. My reliable rugged productive medium-sized rounded tree with its unusual greyish-brown bark has withstood varying events, though it might not take "8.1." Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2104 Tecumseh, $19.00

Toka Late Summer. *P. a.* x *P. sim.* (Chinese apricot plum). Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1911. Rosy red fruit, up to 1 1/2" in diameter, mottled with darker purply red and covered with a faint bloom. Grower Don Johnson's comment was, "Talk about flavor: candy plum." Ed Fackler called Toka the best-flavored plum he grew in his Indiana orchard. Sweet, distinctive, meaty and flavorful. Not real juicy. Extremely vigorous tree blooms heavily every year. Diligent pruning may be required to keep it from becoming a bit of a monster. Considered to be a good pollinator for other hybrid plums. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2108 Toka, $19.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Underwood Midsummer. MN 91 (Shiro x *P. a.* Wyant). U Minn, 1920. Medium to large 2" fruit. Yellow skin with dull red overcoat. Firm sweet juicy golden-yellow freestone flesh, good for eating and cooking. Northern Maine grower Steve Miller considers it to be one of his most reliable bearers. Long picking season. Vigorous large spreading tree blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2112 Underwood, $19.00

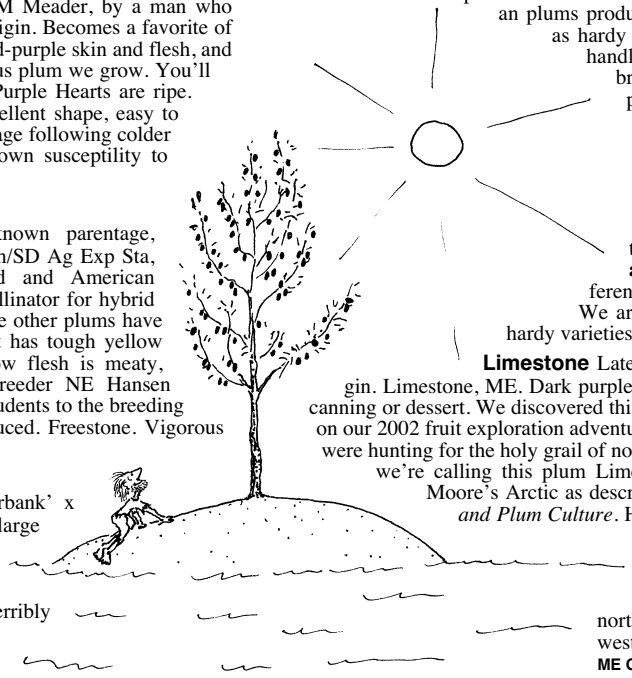
Waneta Midsummer. (*P. sal.* Apple x *P. a.* Terry) NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1913. Released one year after Kahinta, and with the same parentage, when hybrid plums were an important and commercially viable crop. Named after a Yanktonai youth who won fame in the War of 1812 and later became a great chief. Large 1 1/2-2" reddish-maroon fruit, slightly less pointed than Kahinta (#**2060**). Sweet tender translucent orange flesh is very juicy but not dripping. Medium-thick skin, tart and easy to peel. Delicious overall taste. Hansen said of Waneta: "My belief is that in this variety I have combined the best points of the native and the Japanese plum. It is probably the largest [fruit] of over 10,000 seedlings." Early-blooming healthy open spreading tree bears reliably in our orchard. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2117 Waneta, $19.00

European plums

P. domestica Although also delicious fresh, this is the plum that is grown commercially for prunes. A true prune is a plum that can be dried without the pit fermenting. European plums produce smaller fruit and are generally not as hardy as the hybrid plums, though they can handle heavier soils and are less prone to brown rot. Unlike hybrids, they are prone to the fungal disease black knot, which looks like black chewing gum and appears on branches. While not necessarily fatal, it must be kept in check by removing and destroying infected branches. Trees grow upright and are usually trained to a central leader. Although **European plums are self-pollinating**, planting two different varieties will improve pollination.

We are pleased to offer two new extremely hardy varieties from northern Maine. (3 1/2-6' trees)



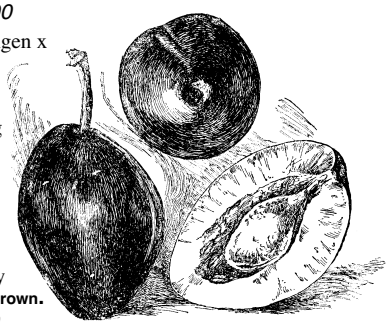
Limestone Late Summer. Unknown parentage or origin. Limestone, ME. Dark purple roundish 1 3/8 x 1 3/8" fruit suitable for canning or dessert. We discovered this extremely hardy European-type plum on our 2002 fruit exploration adventures in northern Aroostook County. We were hunting for the holy grail of northern plums: Moore's Arctic. For now we're calling this plum Limestone after its location. It resembles Moore's Arctic as described by FA Waugh in his 1901 *Plums and Plum Culture*. However, we're not ready to say we've got the real McCoy. We do know that Limestone is an excellent hardy plum for the coldest areas. Should be worth trialing in any part of northern New England or the upper midwest. Self-fertile. Dwarfish size tree. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2135 Limestone, $19.00

Lombard Late Summer. Whitesboro, NY, long before 1830. Originally known as Bleekers Scarlet, but officially named in 1830. Very hardy European-type plum that fruit explorer Garfield King located growing several hours north of here. Oval 1 3/4" purplish-red fruit with a heavy blue bloom and firm juicy yellowish flesh. Considered to be a worthy plum for cooking and canning but never thought of as a dessert plum. A hundred years ago it was the most popular plum in New England, primarily due to its soil and climate adaptability, ruggedness and productivity. It was even said to be resistant to the dreaded plum curculio. Should be worth trying in any part of Maine. Strong healthy upright growing tree. Self-fertile. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2137 Lombard, $19.00

Stanley Late Summer. (*P. d.* Agen x *P. d.* Grand Duke) NY Station, 1926. Most popular European prune plum in America. Excellent for cooking, eating, canning and drying. Medium-to-large fruits with dark blue skin. Green-yellow firm but tender juicy fine-grained sweet flesh. Reliably bearing fast-growing adaptable medium-to-large funnel-shaped tree produces healthy vigorous annual crops. Z3. **ME Grown.**



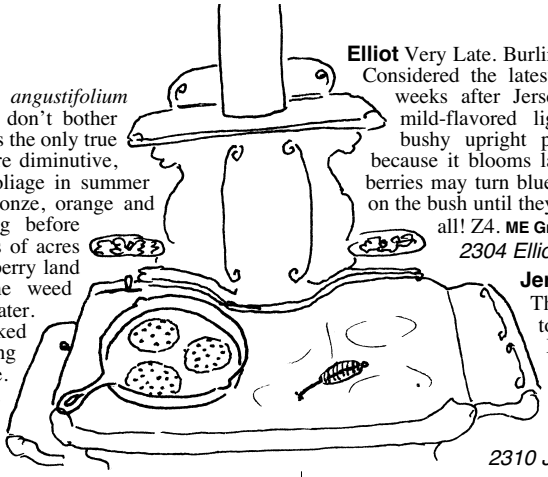
2180 Stanley, $19.00

Small Fruits & Berries

Lowbush Blueberry *Vaccinium angustifolium*

6x24" Blueberry growers in Maine usually don't bother with the "lowbush" distinction; to them, this is the only true blueberry. Though both plants and berries are diminutive, the taste is supreme. Lustrous blue-green foliage in summer followed by an amazing combination of bronze, orange and scarlet in the fall. Grown in Maine long before Europeans came Downeast, where thousands of acres are now under production. Commercial blueberry land is burned in the spring to clear out the weed competition. A crop will then follow a year later. To speed harvesting, berries are usually raked rather than hand-picked. I do either, depending on my mood and the availability of my rake. You don't have to burn and rake to have a small-scale planting. Native to northeastern U.S. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-yr transplants)

2260 Lowbush Blueberry, $9.50



Lowbush Blueberries

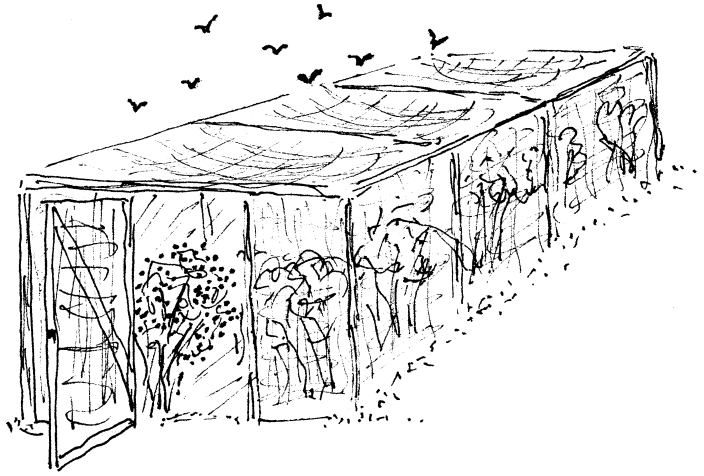
Woodsy dry poor acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2) is a prerequisite for lowbush blueberries. If you've got white pine, you're probably all set. Plant 12" apart each way and cultivate as a ground cover. Generally self-pollinating; other blueberries nearby will help ensure pollination. Full sun is best for maximum fruit production. Keep your patch weed free.

Highbush Blueberries *V. corymbosum*

are native to North America. While usually associated with New Jersey and Michigan, many of Maine's lakes are lined with massive stands of highbush blueberries. Grazing the shore requires only time and a suitable vessel; I prefer kayak or canoe. The beautiful vigorous shrubs are extremely easy to grow at home, productive and reliable, with few disease or insect problems. By planting several varieties, you can harvest berries from early July through most of August. **Two varieties are required, three or more recommended, for pollination**. (12-30" 2-yr old plants)

Bluecrop Early-Midseason. GM 37 (Jersey x Pioneer) x CU-5 (Stanley x June) USDA, NJ, 1952. Medium-sized firm subacid fruit; very light blue berries of high dessert quality, resistant to cracking. Medium-large open clusters. Vigorous, upright 4-6' consistently productive bush. Ripens over a long season. May not be perfectly ripe when they first turn blue. Give them a few more days to reach full flavor before picking. Pruning will help maintain fruit size. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2280 Bluecrop, $9.50



BLUEBERRY NET HOUSE IN THE YARD
BIRDS WILL VISIT THE NEIGHBORS

Blueray Mid. (GM 37 x CU-5) USDA, NJ, 1955. Large firm dark blue berries of high dessert quality in small clusters. Considered the best-tasting by nearly everyone who grows highbush blueberries. Very vigorous 4-6' bush with upright spreading habit. Consistently productive. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2285 Blueray, $9.50

Earliblue Extra Early. (Stanley x Weymouth) USDA, NJ, 1962. The first blueberry of the season to ripen. Moderately large medium-blue firm aromatic fruit with good dessert quality. Vigorous upright hardy moderately-productive bush, with medium-sized loose clusters of berries that do not drop easily. Resists cracking. Some resistance to powdery mildew. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2300 Earliblue, $9.50

Elliot Very Late. Burlington x (Dixi x [Jersey x Pioneer]). USDA, 1974. Considered the latest of all varieties. A real season-extender. Two weeks after Jersey. Loose clusters of medium-sized very firm mild-flavored light-blue berries. Slightly spreading somewhat bushy upright plant is consistently highly productive in part because it blooms late and escapes spring frosts. Be forwarned: the berries may turn blue before they reach their peak flavor. Leave them on the bush until they are fully ripe. Check a few before you pick them all! Z4. **ME Grown.**

2304 Elliot, $9.50

Jersey Mid-Late. (Rubel x Grover) USDA, 1928. The beloved old standard of blueberry introductions to which new varieties are compared. Medium-to-large dark blue berries in large loose clusters. Vigorous erect hardy bush, 5-7' tall. Productive, widely grown, adapted to a wide range of soils, highly praised, easy to grow and suited to the New England climate. Z4. **ME Grown.**

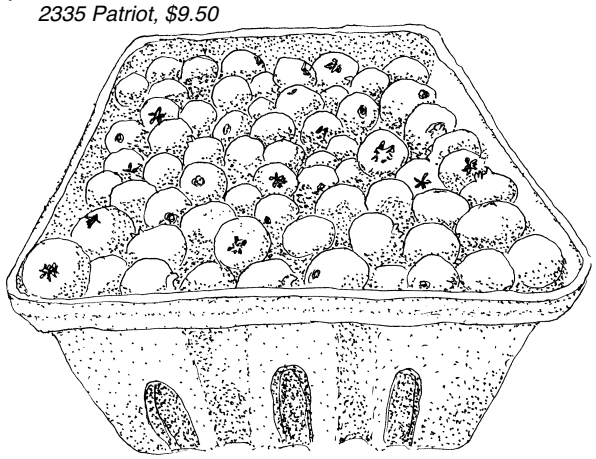
2310 Jersey, $9.50

Northland Early. (Berkeley x 19-H) Mich St. U, 1967. Early highbush x lowbush type bears long loose clusters of medium-small dark blue berries with excellent wild flavor. Very vigorous and productive, 3' moderately spreading bush has limber branches which tolerate snow well. Despite the fact that it's not as easy to pick as some of the others, it remains one of Steve and Barb Miller's two favorites in their large commercial Aroostook planting. (The other is Patriot.) Good landscape, bird forage and dessert qualities. Hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2325 Northland, $9.50

Patriot Early-Mid. US3 (Dixie x Michigan LB-1) x Earliblue (Stanley x Weymouth) U Maine, 1976. Partial lowbush parentage. Adaptable to many soil types. Large firm berries with good color and excellent flavor. Upright open spreading 4' bush. Tolerant or resistant to some strains of soil fungus. Hardy. Z3.

2335 Patriot, $9.50



Highbush Blueberries are shallow-rooted and like light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2), plenty of water, good drainage, and plenty of organic matter. Space them 3-6' apart, towards 3' for the shorter varieties, in rows 8-10' apart. If your soil is lacking acidity, add peat, woods humus, or 1 cup elemental sulfur per bush.

Dig a hole at least twice the size of the root ball. If you use peat, soak it and then mix it with soil at a one-to-one ratio. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery (or slightly deeper). Do not let the roots dry out! Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. At planting time, prune off 1/3 to 1/2 of all growth. Plants require at least 1" water per week during the growing season. On most soils, blueberries require regular applications of nitrogen. In the spring, fertilize with 21-0-0 fertilizer at a rate of 1-2 tablespoons per year-of-age plant (e.g., 3-6 Tb for a 3-year-old plant). Or use an organic equivalent such as 1/2-1 qt composted hen manure per plant.

Fruit is produced on vigorous one-year shoots off healthy canes. As canes age they become twiggy and less productive. Begin pruning after three years. Head back long pieces of new growth for a bushier plant. Cut out weak or dead canes and dead tips. Each bush should be allowed to grow 6-10 canes varying in age from one to six years old. Thereafter, remove dead canes and those over 6 years old and encourage new replacement canes. Bushes with regular moderate pruning produce the most berries.

Berries may need net protection from birds. One of the best arrangements I've seen is John Meader's netted "house" in Buckfield. He has about 40 bushes growing under a framework made of posts and 2x4s and completely covered in netting.

Competition with grass may weaken and kill your blueberries. Mulch heavily (3-6" or more) every year with pine needles, cardboard, wood chips, hay, sawdust, even old slab wood. When using sawdust you may want to compensate by adding extra nitrogen.

Grapes *Vitis* spp. Grapes are easy to grow and can bear plentifully even in northern New England. Our vines bear consistently and heavily almost every year. You can eat seeded varieties right off the vine if you don't mind "grape nuts."

Most grape varieties are bred from a combination of different species, *V. labrusca* and *V. vinifera* being the most important. *Labrusca* is native to the eastern U.S., has a wild tart musky (or foxy) flavor, and is hardy and disease-resistant. Concord is the best-known of the Labruscas. *Vinifera*, native to Europe, is extremely high quality and the most important wine grape in the world, but is not hardy and is prone to disease. Riesling and Chardonnay are the two hardiest pure *vinifera* grapes.

In central Maine, "very early" grapes begin ripening in mid-August, while "midseason" ripen mid-September. Late-season Concord, a standard elsewhere, does not ripen in many northern areas. **Most do not require a second cultivar for pollination.** (1-2 yr well-rooted vines)

Beta Midseason. (*V. riparia* x Concord) Originated by Louis Suelter (pronounced *Sool*-ter) in Minn, 1881. Beta was named after his wife and is pronounced *Bett*-uh not *Bay*-tuh. Old standby, excellent for juice, jelly and jam. Good eating off the vine when completely ripe. Medium-sized black berries in moderately compact to loose clusters. Early to bloom, early to ripen. Vigorous healthy productive vines, extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2370 Beta Grape, $9.00

Bluebell Mid. MN 158 (Beta x unknown). Developed by JM Dorsey, U Minn, 1944. Our most popular seeded grape; it does everything well. Extremely hardy (-30˚F) labrusca type ripens 2-3 weeks earlier than Concord. Delicious sweet flavor makes them excellent for fresh eating, jelly and juice. Clusters of medium-sized dark berries with a heavy blue bloom. Strong, productive, vigorous—but not rampant—vine. Immune to most or all fungal diseases. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2380 Bluebell Grape, $9.00

Chontay Early. (Massasoit x Beta) NE Hansen intro, SD Stn, Brookings, SD, 1925. A generally forgotten variety from the upper midwest that we've been trialing in our vineyard for the past 15 years. Medium-sized loose clusters of large purple fruit. Good fresh eating. In an old issue of the Minnesota Grape Growers *Notes from the North*, Tom Plocher wrote, "I have grown kind of fond of this grape for its beauty, and spicy, fruity (but not labrusca) flavor, not to mention its hardiness. It was one of the few varieties that bore fruit this year following our -41˚ winter." Not considered a wine grape unless you like a strong-flavored brew. Some do. Vigorous vine. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2397 Chontay Grape, $9.00

Grapes prefer soils with pH of 5.5-6.5. They can stand a lot of heat. Try planting them near a stone wall, a big boulder, or the south side of a building, in full sun. Full sun is important. Although soil should not be rich, it should be well-drained with plenty of organic matter. Space them 8-12' apart in rows 8-12' apart.

Spread the roots out, planting the crown even with the soil surface. Do not prune roots. Pack soil well. Water and mulch well. After frost danger has passed, prune vines back to 3-5 strong buds. In later years spread compost and mulch with hay or straw.

Grapes require annual pruning and a trellis or arbor, though some friends let them grow right up into trees. All systems for growing grapes involve removal of most growth in spring or late fall, encouraging new canes, as fruit is produced on these canes. There are many systems for training grapes. Some are suited to laying down and covering tender varieties over winter. Any good book on grape growing will show you several options. We suggest the Hudson River Umbrella or the Four-arm Kniffin system.

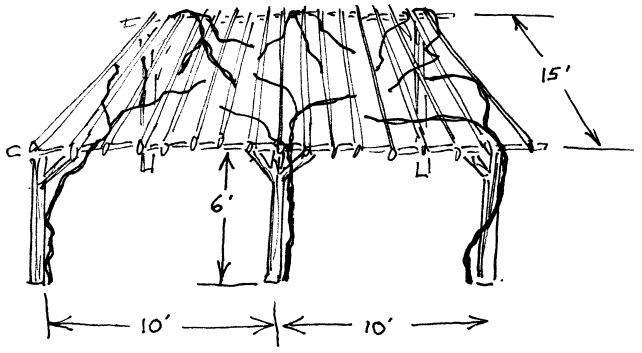
Grapes rated for Zone 5 can be grown in Zones 3 and 4. To prevent winter injury, remove the vine from the trellis in fall, lay it on the ground, and bury with just enough soil to cover. This task is neither difficult nor time-consuming, and does work.

Frontenac Mid-Late. MN1047 (*V. riparia* 'RIP 89' x Landot 4511) U Minn, about 1995. An excellent new hardy red wine grape from the University of Minnesota's grape breeding project. No labrusca or riparia flavor. Wine has been winning acclaim throughout the Upper Midwest and has even been mistaken for Pinot Noir by reputable wine judges. Very large loose clusters of small berries. Vigorous very productive largely disease-free vines. In the Minnesota Grape Growers *Notes from the North*, John Marshall writes, "Though the sugar may rise to impressive levels early in September, the grapes are not nearly ripe. Ignore the sugar levels and wait until September 20th. The acid will drop and the wonderful black cherry flavors that will make this grape famous will multiply." Maine grape researcher and tester Jerry Rodman adds, "Frontenac has made some good wines, but is very high in acid and is probably best for areas with high heat accumulation (which helps to lower its acid)." Z4/5.

2435 Frontenac Grape, $9.00

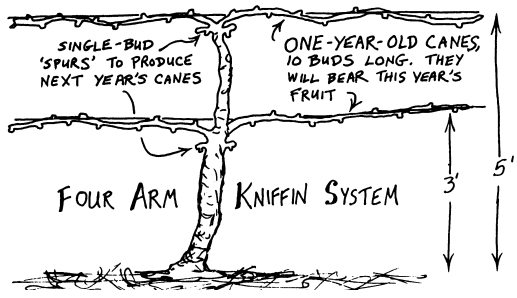
Louise Mid. ES 4-8-33 (ES 2-3-17 x Kay Gray) Swenson introduction, Minn. Also called **Louise Swenson**. Very high-quality white wine grape, that will produce a light subtle aromatic table wine. Named for breeder Elmer Swenson's wife. Minnesota Grape Growers describes the wine as being "without any negative hybrid characteristics, and has a typical delicate aroma of flowers and honey. This wine's only significant fault is that it is rather light in body. Blending with a variety such as Prairie Star makes it a more complete wine." In a recent phone conversation, grower John Marshall told me that "The two [Louise and Prairie star] go hand in hand." Louise "needs to be stiffened up." It is extremely reliable and moderately vigorous. Small-medium clusters. Disease resistant. Buds-out relatively late in the spring. Extremely hardy, to -40˚.

2461 Louise Grape, $9.00



Growing Grapes on an Arbor

Train one or more vines onto an arbor or gazebo. Encourage several permanent arms off the trunk and then every winter remove 70-90% of the the past summer's growth. Next summer new fruiting canes will grow off your permanent arms.


SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES, 10 BUDS LONG. THEY WILL BEAR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT
FOUR ARM KNIFFIN SYSTEM
3'
5'

Pruning Grapes in the Four-Arm Kniffin System

First year: Cut plant back when planting to a single stem, 6" long with two to three buds, after the last danger of frost has passed.

Second year: Set up two wires, 3' and 5' high, stretched between posts. Cut plant back to a single stem, 6 feet long and tie it to the top wire. Leave 4-6 buds near each wire and remove others.

Third year: Select 8 canes, 4 for each wire, and remove the rest. Tie two canes to each wire, one in each direction. Cut these four canes back to 10 buds each. Cut the remaining four canes back to two buds each.

Later years: In the spring, remove last year's fruiting canes. Select eight new canes. Cut 4 of them to 10 buds each, and tie them to your wires. Cut the remaining four back to two buds each. These will produce next year's fruiting canes. Remove all other canes. The number of buds left on the fruiting canes may be adjusted to encourage more fruit or larger size.

Petite Jewell Early-Very Early. (MN 78 x Canadice) Swenson intro, Minn. Very small pink or light red seedless grape with exquisite flavor. Slightly larger than a garden pea. Grower Ike Kerschner wrote in an email to me, "The flavor in my opinion is superior to Canadice and possibly the best flavored out of my collection of most of the available eastern seedless grapes...When selling Petite Jewell [at farmers market] there is always a reluctance by buyers because of the small berry size. One taste convinces even the most skeptical customer." John Marshall of Minnesota Grape Growers called Petite Jewell, "very tasty, even remarkably tasty." No objectionable seed remnants in the fruit. Small loose clusters. Blooms early and could be hit by late frosts. Although the vine I am testing in Palermo (Zone 4) has thus far proven hardy, growers have warned me about its tenderness. It is certainly hardier than Canadice, but may be damaged at -25°. Z4(?) **ME Grown.**

2469 Petite Jewell Grape, $9.00

Prairie Star Mid. ES 3-24-7 (ES 2-7-13 x ES 2-8-1) Swenson intro, Minn, 1984. Blocky long slightly loose clusters of medium-sized white fruit. Excellent sugar and acidity for winemaking. Makes a nice classy varietal wine with no foxy flavor. Tom Plocher and Bob Parke reported in *Notes from the North* that the wine has "a fullness in the mouth and finish that is uncommon among our hybrids...In some years it develops a delicate floral nose that allows it to stand as a single variety wine. In most years however, Prairie Star is an ideal blending component to add body and finish to thin white wines." A favorite of Jerry Rodman who has tested dozens of grape varieties at his Litchfield, ME, vineyard. Prefers heavier fertile soils. Disease-resistant and very hardy. Z3/4.

2480 Prairie Star Grape, $9.00

Reliance Seedless Very Early. Arkansas 1163 (Ontario x Suffolk Red) Arkansas Stn, 1982. Probably the highest-quality seedless grape for the North. Large loose clusters of tender melting sweet pinkish-red fruit with a strawberry-like flavor. Fresh eating or juice. Stores well in root cellar for 1-2 months. Seems perfectly hardy in our Zone 4 trials. Lay vines down for the winter in coldest areas. Although the literature cautions about Reliance's disease susceptibility, our vines have performed well and have remained disease-free. Z4/5.

2485 Reliance Seedless, $9.00

Sabrevois Mid. ES 2-1-9, Swenson intro, Minn, 2001. Extremely cold-hardy red wine grape. Produces an excellent dry complex aromatic wine with good body. Best used in a light style. Produces small to medium-sized clusters of black fruit, with moderate sugars and slightly high acids. Often used for blending with Frontenac or other reds known for higher sugars. Varietals should be aged for two years in the bottle. Very strong vigorous grower with good upright growth patterns. When grown on a large trellis it can produce large crops. Named after the town near the Richelieu River in southern Quebec where Gilles Benoit of Vignoble des Pins first made high quality wine from the variety. Very disease resistant. Hardy to about -31°. Z4.

2488 Sabrevois Grape, $9.00

St. Pepin Mid. (Seyval x [MN 78 x Seibel 1000(Rosette)]) Elmer Swenson introduction, Osceola, WI, c 1970. Rather loose clusters of firm medium-sized greenish-white aromatic fruit. Excellent for table use. Also makes very good non-foxy white juice and what Jerry Rodman calls a "nice, classy German-style white wine." Female vine, must be planted with other varieties for pollination. We planted ours near several other varieties and pollination has never been a problem. Moderately productive, disease-free vine. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2500 St. Pepin Grape, $9.00

Suelter Mid. (*V. riparia* x Concord (*V. labrusca*)) Originated by Louis Suelter, Carver, MN. The less famous but equally hardy sister to Beta. Medium-sized blue berries in medium-sized loose clusters. Less foxy taste than Beta. Good for juice, wine and jelly. Fresh eating when dead-ripe. Ripens 3-4 weeks before Concord. Extremely cold-hardy and disease resistant. Requires a second variety for pollination. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2516 Suelter Grape, $9.00

Classic Reference Books for Fruit and Ornamental Growers

There are many good books for fruit and ornamental tree enthusiasts. Here are a few of my favorites. Most are out of print but may be in a local college or university library. Some can be found for sale in used book sites online. You can find many good recently published offerings in the book section of the Seed Catalog.

Fruit:

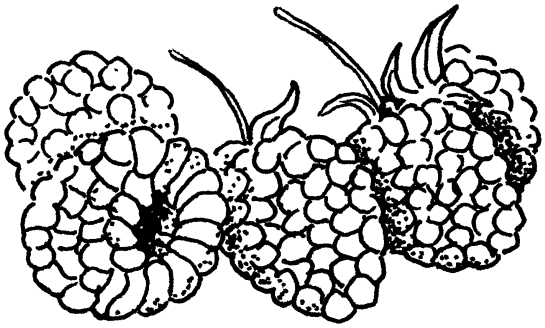
A View of the Cultivation of Fruit Trees, William Coxe. Philadelphia, 1817.
The New American Orchardist, William Kendrick. Boston, 1833.
The American Fruit Book, SW Cole. New York, 1849.
American Fruit-Growers Guide, FR Elliott. New York, 1854.
The Fruits and Fruit-Trees of America, AJ Downing. New York, 1886. (numerous editions – the 1886 edition has additional appendices)
Plums and Plum Culture, FA Waugh. New York, 1901
The Fruits of New York, 1905: A series that includes volumes covering all the major tree fruits and small fruits. The two-volume *Apples of New York* by SA Beach is best reference for apple identification through 1905.
The American Fruit Culturist, John J Thomas. New York, 1908
Cyclopedia of Hardy Fruits, UP Hedrick. New York, 1922.
Register of New Fruit and Nut Varieties, 2nd edition, Brooks and Olmo. University of California Press, 1972. All the minutia, introduction dates, etc. for the serious enthusiast. 3rd edition includes more recent introductions but lacks information from the 2nd edition.
Cornucopia II: A Sourcebook of Edible Plants, Stephen Facciola, Kampong Publications, CA, 1998. Very useful but many sources are out of date.
Fruit, Nut, and Berry Inventory, 3rd edition, Kent Whealy. Seed Savers Exchange, Iowa, 2001. Very useful but many sources are out of date.

Ornamentals:

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants, 5th edition, Michael A Dirr. Stipes Publishing, Champaign, IL, 1998. The best reference for woody plants. Stay away from the recent edition with photos. Get the original with line drawings.
*The Best of the Hardies*t, 3rd edition, John J Sabuco. Plantsman's Publications, 1989. Second only to Dirr.
Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus, John J Fiala. Oregon, 1995.
Lilacs: The Genus Syringa, John L Fiala. Timber Press, Oregon, 2002.
Tree Crops: A Permanent Agriculture, J Russell Smith. New York, 1950.
Seeds of Woody Plants in the United States, Agricultural Handbook No. 450. US Dept of Agriculture, Washington, DC, 1974. Seed germination of woody plants.

Two Internet Sites:

hortweb.cas.psu.edu/aps/aony/aony1.html has links to the illustrations in Volumes 1 and 2 of *The Apples of New York, The Pears of New York* and *The Small Fruits of New York*.
chla.library-cornell.edu, an online library of horticultural reference materials, includes *The Apples of New York*, *American Fruit Growers Guide* (listed as the *Hand-book for Fruit Growers*) and *Plums and Plum Culture*.



Raspberries *Rubus* spp.

The ruby red and golden yellow cultivated raspberries growing in the garden are native to North America, Europe and Asia. They are usually identified as *R. ideaus* or *R. ideaus* var *stirgosus*. Hyland and Steinmetz's *Trees and Other Woody Plants of Maine* lists 53 different *Rubus* species and subspecies.

Everbearing types bear on first-year canes or primocanes. We don't offer Heritage, a popular producer of high-quality fruit, because it ripens too late for growers in Zone 4 and cold areas of Zone 5.

Summer-bearing cultivars bear on second-year canes or floricanes. Harvest leaves for medicinal use from first-year canes of summer-bearing varieties. A leaf and fruit vinegar is very high in minerals, and the leaf tea makes a great tonic for both uterus and prostate.

A second variety is not needed for pollination. Prior to planting, soak canes in Agri-gel, in the sidebar and also available in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed Catalog. (well-rooted bare-root canes)

Anne Late. JEF-b1 (Amity x Glen Garry) Flavorful everbearing yellow raspberry. This summer I had a long conversation with University of Maine's small-fruit specialist David Handley about Fedco's catalog selections. He suggested we replace Kiwigold with Anne. It ripens earlier than Kiwigold and is actually yellow, not a washed-out pink. Large cohesive fruit with good flavor. Tall rangy productive plant may sucker less than other everbearing types. Mulching or adding organic matter to the soil will encourage more suckering which should of course improve yield. Like other everbearing types, cut it right down to the ground after the season. Z4.

2577 Anne Raspberry, bundle of 10, $17.50

Killarney Early. (Chief x Indian Summer) Morden Station, Manitoba, 1961. Medium-to-large round crumbly fruit of excellent quality over a long season. Summer-bearing cultivar ripens after Prelude and before Nova. Sister of Boyne, but firmer in texture and brighter in color. Sturdy 4' canes. Yields consistently. Extremely hardy. Z3.

2660 Killarney Raspberry, bundle of 10, $17.50
2661 Killarney Raspberry, bundle of 25, $28.50

Nova Midseason. (Southland x Boyne) Kentville, Nova Scotia, 1981. Midseason red introduced relatively recently. In our trials Nova appears to be hardier than Boyne with fruit quality as good as or better than Boyne. Medium-sized firm somewhat acid bright red fruit. Summer-bearing. Upright productive minimally spiny canes produce long fruiting laterals which make the fruit easy to pick. Z3.

2685 Nova Raspberry, bundle of 10, $17.50
2686 Nova Raspberry, bundle of 25, $28.50

Raspberries and Blackberries

Cane fruits have shallow perennial roots and biennial fruiting canes. They prefer full sun, good air circulation and well-drained soil, rich in organic matter, with pH of 5.8-6.2. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, strawberries or wild brambles have grown because they all are subject to verticillium wilt, which may remain in the soil. Plant rows 6-12' apart to facilitate cultivation. See below for planting distances. Before planting, work into the soil 15 bushels dry manure or 10 bushels fresh manure per 100 sq feet. A well-kept patch can last for 10-20 years.

Be sure each hole is large enough to spread out the roots. Do not allow the fine roots to dry out. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel for 1-2 hours before planting. Plant 1-2" deeper than in the nursery and then cut the canes off at ground level.

Cane fruits should be trellised between two temporary or permanent wires about 3-4' off the ground and 18-36" apart. Mulch with a thick layer of woodchips or sawdust. Fertilize liberally each spring with up to 100 lbs manure or compost, 8 lbs bloodmeal or 14 lbs cottonseed meal per 100 foot row. Plants require 2" water per week during the growing season.

• Summer-bearing varieties: Space 2' apart. After harvest, prune to the ground the canes that carried fruit or remove them the following spring. Thin the fresh first year canes to about 3-4" apart. They will bear fruit next year. During the growing season cut back canes to 5' if they are bending over severely.

• Purple and black raspberries: Plant in hills 3' apart. Basic pruning is same as summer-bearing varieties. As they fill in, thin to 5-8 canes per hill. During the early summer, pinch back tip of first year canes to 2½-3' tall. This will encourage lateral fruiting branches. These will need very little, if any, support and may not require trellising. In the following spring, cut these fruiting laterals back to 8-12 buds.

• Everbearing Raspberries: Plant 9-15" apart. Cut all canes to the ground in late fall after leaves drop, or in early spring; first-year canes will fruit in mid-late summer.

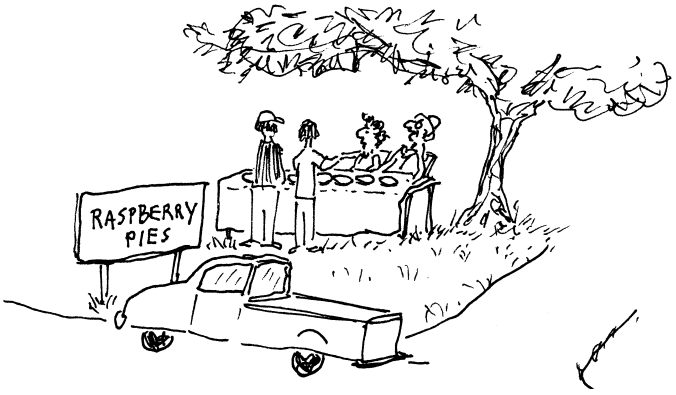
• Space blackberries 3-4' apart.

Polana Late Summer. (Heritage x Zeva Herbsternte) Research Inst. of Pomology and Floriculture, Brzezna, Poland, 1991. Very early fruiting everbearing red raspberry. Has performed very well in our Fedco trials. Should ripen in late August or early September in northern districts. According to David Handley, "as near a thing to a sure bet." Large firm berries with very good flavor. Very vigorous and productive short canes. Easy to pick—the berries hang from the tops of the plants. Suckers freely.

2689 Polana Raspberry, bundle of 10, $17.50

Prelude Early. NY 1009. NY St Exp Stn. The best berry for early-season fresh eating. We decided to offer this newly developed red raspberry after several years of trials at John and Pat Meader's Maine Hardy Nursery in Buckfield. John wrote, "I'd strongly recommend Prelude. It showed hardiness equal to Boyne last winter [2002-03] and fruits the earliest of all varieties I've observed (over 30)....Prelude would preceed Boyne nicely; it has good fruit (taste, firmness, size) and seems quite productive; it fruits well over two full weeks." Firm red medium-sized fruit is easy to see and pick, ripens in central Maine in early-mid July. Can be grown as a primocane type or floricane type. Suckers freely. Z4.

2690 Prelude Raspberry, bundle of 10, $17.50
2691 Prelude Raspberry, bundle of 25, $28.50



BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD IN BUCKSPORT
ALMOST AS GOOD AS OURS

Royalty Purple Mid. (Cumberland x Newburgh) x (Newburgh x Indian Summer) NY Stn, 1982. Distinctly flavored cohesive fairly firm large berries make outstanding jam and jelly, and even better fresh eating. Their flavor is different from the red raspberries, with a hint of black-raspberry. Extremely robust minimally suckering plants are very productive and open-formed; the berries are right in your face and easy to pick. Ready to harvest when they are deep purple, somewhat later than the reds. Summer-bearing. Plant in hills (see sidebar). Usually considered Zone 4 but is proving itself into Zone 3 with occasional slight tip dieback. Does not like wet soil. Disease resistant. Z3/4.

2700 Royalty Purple Raspberry, bundle of 10, $28.50

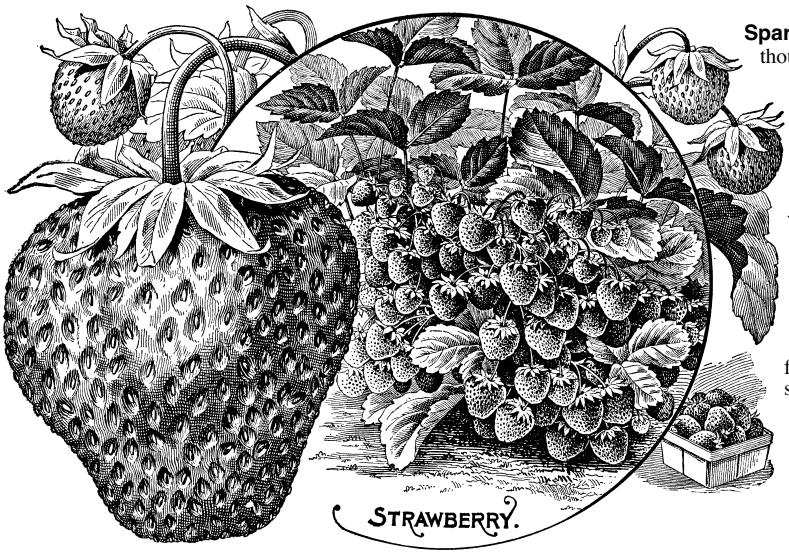
Blackberries *Rubus* spp.

Fort Kent King Unknown parentage, Aroostook County, ME. An extremely hardy blackberry of commercial potential for those who have planted "hardy" blackberries in the past and have been disappointed. Plant explorer Garfield King of Fort Kent, in northernmost Maine, introduced this berry to us in the late 1990s. Garfield had found it many years earlier on an abandoned farm in central Aroostook. He brought some plants up to Fort Kent and grew them in Zone 3 with great success. But up there, the deep snow protects the plants. We began to test them around Maine in less hospitable locations six years ago and since 2002 have been testing them around the country. Although those trials are still ongoing, all of the growers have reported them as being fully hardy. The canes are very productive, thorny and may tend to crawl during the first years. They will eventually stand erect. The fruit is generally ¾-1" long and the quality is very good to excellent. Our southernmost grower (on Long Island) reported they are "susceptible to wet weather fungus." I have not noticed that up here. Plant them 3-4' apart in good garden soil with lots of sun. They enjoy good air drainage but do not like desiccating winter wind. Stake if necessary. Cut out dead canes each year. Head back the plants during the summer to a manageable height (they will grow to be 6' or taller). **ME Grown.**

2750 Fort Kent King, bundle of 3, $17.50

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. ½ oz.

7510 Agri-gel, $2.00



Sparkle Mid-Late. (Fairfax x Aberdeen) NJ Ag Exp Stn, 1942. Although not a favorite with commercial growers due to moderate crop size and smaller berries, I've yet to taste a strawberry that comes even remotely close to Sparkle. To me, they possess a flavor that can only be described as the essence of strawberry. The best in an early year, the best in a late year, the best this year, last year, every year. This is *the* berry if you want to eat the perfect strawberry. Soft berries make delicious fresh eating and are also excellent for jams and freezing. One of its few drawbacks is that it tends to lose color in the freezer. First fruit set is large; the rest are small. Resistant to most strains of red stele. Blooms late and is rarely affected by spring frost. Z3.

2790 Sparkle Strawberry, bundle of 50, $12.00

Tristar (EB 18 x MdUS 4258) USDA, MD, 1981. Everbearing "day-neutral" strawberry sets flower buds regardless of day length, fruiting all summer and into fall. Remove flower buds for the first six weeks after planting and you'll still get a crop the first year. Medium-sized firm deep-red berries of excellent quality and flavor. University of Maine small-fruit specialist David Handley considers Tristar to have the best size and quality of the everbearing types. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Z4.

2802 Tristar Strawberry, bundle of 50, $17.00

Strawberries *Fragaria* x *ananassa*

A major highlight of every summer is picking Sparkles. Is that not heaven? Although no one knows where the common name *strawberry* originated, idle speculation has it that it comes from the practice of putting straw down between the rows for pickers to sit on while they sample the fruit and catch up with each other. Technically not berries or fruits at all, strawberries are enlarged fleshy receptacles. The fruits are those tiny embedded "seeds" (they're not seeds, but achenes which have seeds in them). Modern strawberries, developed about 1830, are a hybrid of *F. chiloensis* (native of Chile) and *F. virginiana* (native of North America).

50 plants will plant from 50-100'. (virus-free bare-root stock)

RED LIPS CONVERSE ON THE STRAW
NO NEED FOR BREAKFAST

Earliglow Early. MDUS 3861 [MDUS 2359 (Fairland x Midland)] x [MD2713 (Redglow x Surecrop)] Maryland Ag Exp Stn, 1966. Medium-sized berries. Best for fresh eating and freezing. Excellent flavor for an early berry. Barbara Bowling called it the best flavored of all varieties in *The Berry Growers Companion*. Also *the* favorite of local strawberry grower Shaun Keenan. Incredibly, Earliglow even beat Sparkle in the Middlesex School alumni strawberry taste-off. Though I witnessed the event I was ineligible to participate. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Considerably more productive in southern New England than up north. Z3.

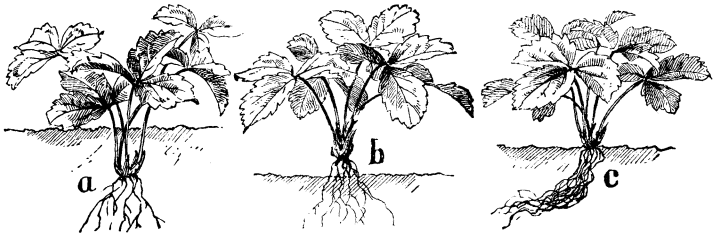
2770 Earliglow Strawberry, bundle of 50, $12.00

Glooscap Midseason. (Micmac x Bounty) Kentville, NS, 1983. Medium to large, medium-firm deep dark red fruit with very good flavor. Plants are vigorous, high yielding and winter hardy. Perennial favorite in central Maine due to the work of Austin and Shirley Moore who grew them for many years at Uncas Farm. Austin describes Glooscap as "everything you want in a strawberry. People just love them." Shirley added, "They taste the way strawberries should taste." Moderately resistant to powdery mildew but susceptible to verticillium wilt, red stele root rot and green petal.

2773 Glooscap Strawberry, bundle of 50, $12.00

Jewel Mid-Late. NY 1324 [(Senga Sengana x NY E-58) x Holiday] NY Station, 1985. Added to our list at the suggestion of Shaun Keenan at Sand Hill Farm in Somerville. Shaun even went so far as to say that Jewel tasted almost as good as Sparkle. Although I don't think I'd go quite that far, I was very impressed with the berry. Large bright red glossy perfectly shaped fruit is firm, sweet and slightly aromatic. Unlike Sparkle, Earliglow and many other varieties, it keeps its size all season. Extremely popular with commercial growers. Good freezing quality. Low incidence of fruit rots and foliar diseases. Not resistant to verticillium or red stele. Z4.

2780 Jewel Strawberry, bundle of 50, $12.00



Wrong Methods of Planting

Strawberries

Keep cold or refrigerate between arrival and planting. Strawberries require good air drainage, well-drained fertile soil with pH of 5.8-6.2, thick mulch and full sun. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers or potatoes have grown in the past 4 years. Plant strawberries at the same depth as they were in the nursery, with the middle of the crown at soil level. Keep your patch free of weeds. They require 3/4-1" water per week during April, May, August, September and October. Mulch with hay or straw in late fall to protect plants over winter. In the spring, pull mulch off plants and place between rows where it will keep fruit dry and clean during the summer. It can also be raked back over the plants if frost threatens flower buds. Floating rowcover may also be used for winter and frost protection.

June-Bearing Strawberries

Matted Row system: Set plants 12-24" apart in rows 3' apart. Allow plants to produce runners freely and fill in the row. Remove all flowers the first year. Harvest berries the second summer. Immediately after harvest, fertilize liberally with compost or aged manure and renovate the row. By hand or with a tiller, narrow the row to 12" wide. Thin plants to 4-5" apart within the row. By this method a bed can last about 5 years. Then plow it under and start again.

Day-Neutral Strawberries (like Tristar) flower regardless of day length as long as temperatures are between 35 and 85˚, and produce fruit from June to October. They are also uncommonly productive—about one pound of fruit per plant the first year, and slightly less the second year. Productivity peaks in August the first year. The second year, berry size decreases in the hottest weather and increases in cooler weather.

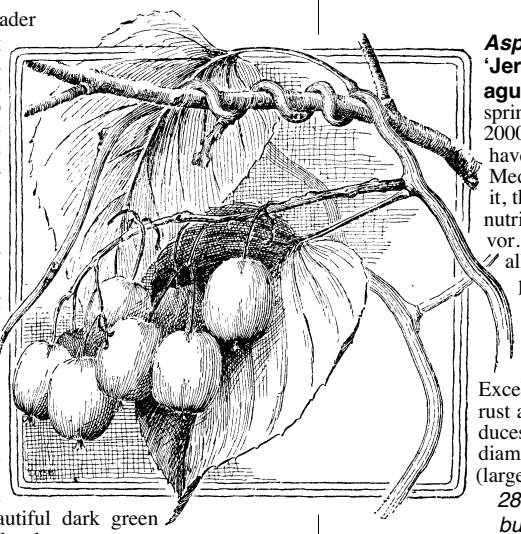
They are heavy feeders and benefit from 3-4" of manure worked 4-6" into the soil prior to planting, and monthly side-dressing of manure throughout the season. Plant 6-12" apart. Mulch with black plastic or thick straw immediately after planting. Remove flowers for the first six weeks, and remove all runners the first season. Mulch in late fall. Side-dress with manure monthly during the second season beginning in May. Till under after the second year and begin again.

More Edibles

***Actinidia arguta* Hardy Kiwi** Productive climbing vine that produces delicious grape-sized kiwi fruits in late summer. Unlike supermarket kiwis, the skin is smooth and edible. Easy to grow in rich well-drained soils. Will begin producing in 5-9 years. No significant pest or disease problems. Some growers have been frustrated with vines that have proven unproductive or not hardy. After consulting several of Maine's long-time growers, we collected cuttings from fruiting combinations here in central Maine. We think you'll be pleased with our choices. We'll be offering more varieties in the years to come. Both male and female plants required for fruit. One male will pollinate at least three females. Z4. (well-rooted 2-3 yr vines)

***A. a.* Meader** (female) Summer. Elwin Meader introduction, Rochester, NH. Early ripening medium-sized sweet and flavorful fruit. Grower Will Bonsall commented that since the "exquisite flavor [is] conducive to depraved behavior, members of opposite sex should never eat fruits in the same room." Productive vine is hardy to -25°. Z4 maybe 3. **ME Grown.**

2827 Meader female, $13.00

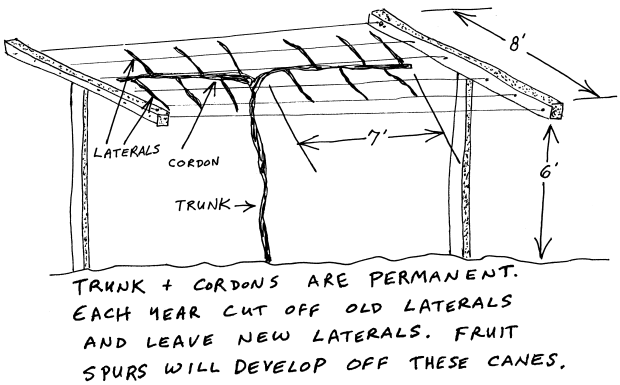


***A. a.* Michigan State** (female) Summer. Michigan State University. Grower Tom Vigue calls the thumb-shaped thumb-sized fruit, "sweet and most highly luscious." When I tasted the fruit in Tom's kiwi "vineyard" I thought it was absolutely delicious. Larger than other varieties. **ME Grown.**

2829 Mich State female, $13.00

***A. a.* Meader Male** Hardy male kiwi suitable for pollinating Michigan State and Meader females. One male will pollinate several females. The vines with their beautiful dark green ornamental foliage are often grown just for the show. **ME Grown.**

2834 Meader Male kiwi, $13.00

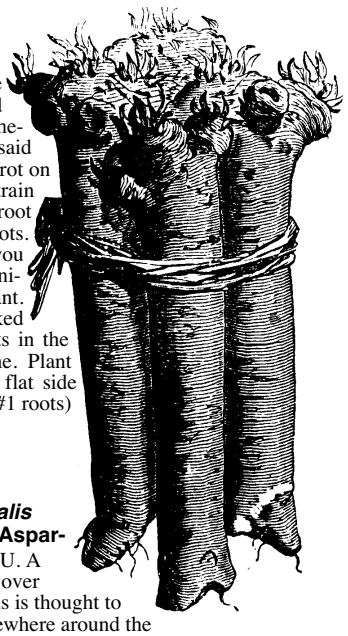


Kiwis are dioecious vines, meaning you must plant a male plant to pollinate the fruiting female plants. They are also extremely vigorous and require a rugged trellis or arbor and heavy pruning. Plant vines 10' apart each way in moderately rich moist, but well-drained, soil (pH 5.0-6.5). Plant a male plant within 30' of any female to be pollinated. One male will pollinate several females. Although the plants are quite hardy, the flowers and foliage are frost sensitive. Planting with a northern exposure will delay budding-out in spring and reduce risk of frost damage. Protecting from winter winds and intense winter sun is also recommended. Mulch with hay or wood chips. On poor sites fertilize with compost annually.

On a trellis: Train a single trunk to the trellis wires and then train two permanent 7-10' cordons (arms) off the trunk. Each winter remove at least 70% of old growth, leaving a dozen or so one-year-old laterals. That year's fruit will develop on fruit spurs growing off these one-year old canes (laterals). On extremely rampant vines summer pruning may be required to keep the vines from choking out your farm.

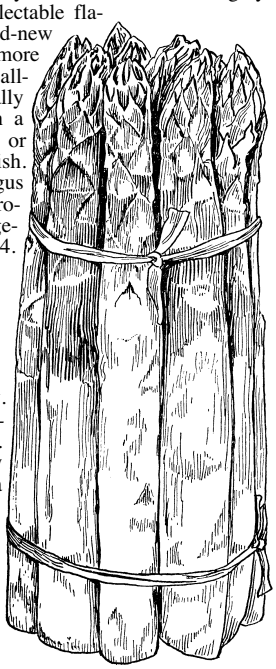
On an arbor or gazebo: Once established, prune 70% of the old growth each year and leave some new canes for this year's fruiting.

***Armoracia rusticana* 'Big Top' Horseradish** Exceptionally vigorous perennial with large dock-like leaves and spicy hot roots, savored for centuries for their culinary and medicinal qualities. Horseradish tea is said to be an effective control for brown rot on stone fruit. 'Big Top' is a newer strain with disease resistance. Deep taproot with numerous shallow runner roots. Plant it where you want it because you may never get it all out. Even the tiniest root piece will produce a new plant. Prefers rich soil. Leaves can be cooked as greens. They say to harvest roots in the fall, but you can dig them anytime. Plant with the slanted cut down and the flat side up. Native to northern Europe. Z3. (#1 roots)



2860 Bigtop Horseradish, bundle of 5, $11.00

***Asparagus officinalis* 'Jersey Supreme' Asparagus** Early. Rutgers U. A spring staple for well over 2000 years. Asparagus is thought to have originated somewhere around the Mediterranean Sea, perhaps in Asia Minor. The pharaohs ate it, the Greeks, the Romans. They were all aware of its highly nutritious qualities and its delectable flavor. Jersey Supreme is a brand-new all-male hybrid which is more productive than the older all-male varieties. Occasionally females will show up in a planting. Leave them be or rogue them out as you wish. Excellent tolerance to asparagus rust and fusarium crown rot. Produces high yields of large-diameter tender spears. Z4. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)



2872 Jersey Supreme, bundle of 25, $13.00

2873 Jersey Supreme, bundle of 50, $21.00

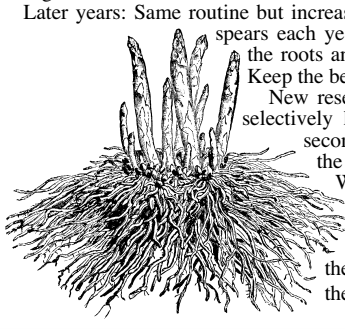
***A. o.* 'Purple Passion' Asparagus** Early. Developed from the old Italian heirloom *Violetto di Albenga*. Brian Benson introduction. Very large deep purple stalk with a creamy white interior. Purple asparagus are actually a type of "white" asparagus shown the light. Sweeter and less stringy than its green counterparts, meaning you can use more of the spear. Tender enough to eat raw in salads. Turns green when cooked. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

2875 Purple Passion, bundle of 25, $13.00

Asparagus requires fertile soil with pH 6.8-7.2 and high levels of phosphorous. It doesn't like weeds. Plant when you receive your order or as soon as the ground can be worked. Plant 14-18" apart, 6-10" deep, in trenches 4' apart. Or dig your trenches somewhat deeper and fill the bottom with 4" of compost and rotted manure. Lay plants with crown up and cover with 2" of soil. Plants emerge very slowly. As young shoots grow, add soil gradually just covering the shoots until the trench is full. In late fall, remove dead stalks and mulch with 3" of manure.

Second summer: Add lime as needed and dig in rock fertilizers and nitrogen fertilizer as needed. Control weeds but do not injure crowns.

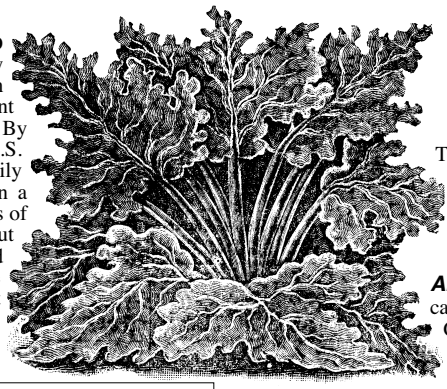
Later years: Same routine but increase fertilizer. Be sure to leave some spears each year to grow stalks that will support the roots and give you more spears next year. Keep the bed weed free and mulched heavily.



New research shows that asparagus can be selectively harvested for 2 weeks during the second growing season, for 4 weeks in the third, and a full season thereafter. We recommend caution in harvesting any but the largest shoots from vigorous plants before the third or fourth season as the young plants need to establish themselves.

***Rheum rhabarbarum* 'MacDonald' Rhubarb** MacDonald College, Quebec. Ben Franklin may have been the first to introduce rhubarb to North America. In 1770, while he was in England, he sent "some of the true Rhubarb seed" to John Bartram. By 1829 this Siberian plant was appearing in U.S. catalogs. A perennial herb of the buckwheat family whose clumps of juicy acid leaf stalks have been a food and medicine staple every spring for thousands of years. Most famous these days for pies and wine, but also great for sauce, breads and juice. MacDonald has extremely vigorous productive upright large tender stalks, deep red inside and out. Leaves not edible. Native to Russia. Z3. (#1 crowns)

2880 MacDonald Rhubarb, bundle of 2, $9.50



Rhubarb
Plant the top of the root division level with the surface in well-prepared well-drained rich slightly acid soil (pH 5.5-6.5) and a bushel of well-rotted manure or compost under each crown. When plants are established, fertilize liberally with manure and balanced garden fertilizer or compost every spring, as it's a heavy feeder. Harvest for four weeks two years after planting. Thereafter you can harvest for 8-10 weeks each year. Never remove more than 2/3 of the stalks from a plant.

Every ten years or so, divide plants in early spring, leaving about 1/3 of the crown in place. Cut up the remainder into fist-sized pieces and replant.

***Vaccinium macrocarpon* American Cranberry** This is the cranberry of delicious holiday sauces, bread and jelly. Dense low 2-12" lustrous evergreen ground cover, reddish purple in fall and loaded with 1/2" light yellow to orange to reddish-maroon berries that color more after harvest. Makes a beautiful and edible "lawn." Handpick or rake like blueberries before hard frost. Use fresh or freeze, or store in a cool basement or root cellar for months. Berries a well-known cystitis remedy. Requires acidic soil, native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. 10 plants will fill a 5x5' bed. Z2. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted plants with 3-4 runners)

2890 American Cranberry, bundle of 10, $16.00

American Cranberries are shallow-rooted and require light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.5), preferably cool, moist and high in organic matter, similar to soils in which blueberries grow well. Will grow in dry locations though often flooded for frost protection and convenience in commercial operations. Flooding not necessary in home plots. Plant them in spring once the ground can be worked. They do well in a bed or in a naturalized setting. Instructions are for a 5 x 5' bed (10 plants).

For acidic "blueberry" soils: If you're fortunate to have a site where blueberries grow naturally, clear a spot of vegetation, cultivate the soil, add some peat and sand if you like, and you're ready to plant.

Sandy soils: Remove soil 10" deep and mix soil with 2 bales of damp peat moss. To acidify the soil, also mix in 1/4 lb sulfur. Replace mixture in bed and cover with 2" of sand.

Clay or silty soils: Remove soil 10" deep and place it around the edge of the bed as a berm. Replace the soil with 8" of moist peat moss (about 2 bales). Add 2" of sand and mix it slightly with the peat. To acidify the soil, also mix in 1/4 lb sulfur. Cover with an additional 2" of sand.

Plant cranberries 12" apart, so the roots are into the peat and the sand is covering the lower portion of the stems.

Remove all weeds as needed. Water the plants weekly so that the peat is moist but not saturated. Add nitrogen at a rate of 1/3-1 lb (or 20-50 pounds of manure) per 100 sq feet each year. No pesticides should be necessary.

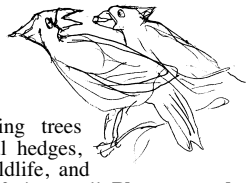
Handpick berries before first hard frost when the berries are red.

In late fall cover the bed to protect the plants from the drying effect of winter winds. Use a mulch of leaves or pine needles; or cover with polyester row cover and then clear plastic; or cover with row cover and then plenty of leaves. If you use row cover or plastic, you may want to bait for mice under the plastic.

Remove mulch in early April. Protect flower buds from 28° frosts by covering with plastic during frosty nights.

Every two years partially cover the plants with a 1/2-1" layer of sand in spring before growth begins. This will help produce more berries and keep weeds down.

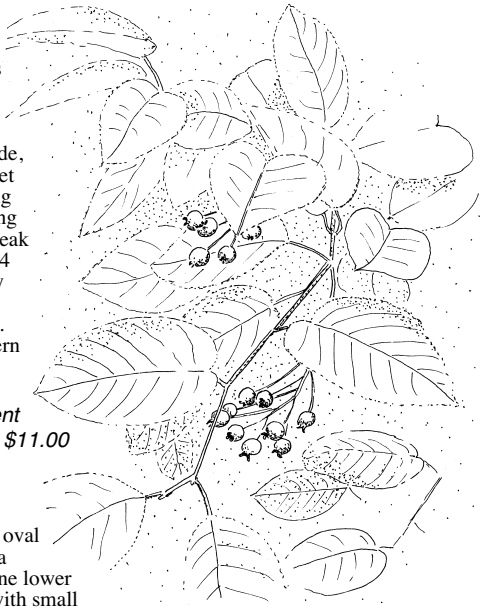
Fruiting Shrubs and Trees



These additional fruit-bearing trees and shrubs make beautiful hedges, attract birds and other wildlife, and many produce quite edible fruit as well. **Plant more than one of a kind to ensure pollination** for fruit production.

***Amelanchier alnifolia 'Regent'* Juneberry** 4-6' Also called **Western Serviceberry**, **Saskatoon** or **Shadbush**. J Candrian introduction, Regent, ND. Compact shrub form with fragrant white flowers in early spring and large 1/3"-1/2" blueberry-like sweet purplish berries in July. Sweeter than blueberries. Berries are good in pies or jams, fresh or dried. Used by native peoples in western prairies to make pemmican. Also popular with wildlife. Nice red-orange fall color. Regent was selected for excellent foliage and berry production. Generally considered the best ornamental cultivar. Prefers slightly acid soil, pH 5-7. Thrives as well along stream beds as it does on rocky slopes. Tolerates partial shade, salt, pollution and wet spots but not standing water. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy; see page 4 for instructions. May get leaf diseases in warmer humid areas. Native to northwestern North America. Z2. (12-18" transplants)

2930 Regent Juneberry, $11.00



***Cornus mas* Cornelian Cherry** 20-25' Large multi-stemmed shrub with oval to rounded form, or a small tree if you prune lower branches. Covered with small bright yellow flower clusters for 3 weeks in early spring, even before forsythia. Attractive long ovate leaves are shiny rich green. Bears profusions of dark red almost black 1/2-1" oblong cherry-like fruit from mid-late summer into fall; one tree can produce 30-70 lbs. a year. Fruit is variable but can be sweet, tart and tasty, and is traditionally used fresh, dried, pickled, in tarts, jellies, syrups and drinks. Best for fresh eating when dark red, soft and beginning to shrivel. Fruits have twice as much vitamin C as oranges; folkloric use for skin disorders, joint pains and stomach upset. Flaky, exfoliating greyish to orange-brown bark. Extremely tough wood suitable for shafts, spokes and even bolts. Easy to grow, pest- and fungus-free and very long lived. Excellent as a hedge or specimen. Prefers well-drained soils but adapts to most soils, city conditions, even shade. Drought tolerant. Resistant to deer browsing. Fruit buds tend to escape early spring frosts although they can be injured in colder areas. Pest problems negligible. Self-pollinating, though pollination may improve with more trees. Native to eastern Europe and western Asia. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (30-48" transplants)

3000 Cornelian Cherry, $14.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

***Humulus lupulus* Common Hop** Late summer. Up to 20-30' Not only for brewmeisters, although it has been used for brewing for over 1000 years. Beautiful twining vine dies back to the ground in fall and still covers a trellis or archway next growing season with green lobed leaves, bristly stems, insignificant greenish flowers, followed by the hops themselves: papery aromatic cone-like strobiles that are used in brewing and insomnia remedies. For brewing, there are basically two types of hops. Aroma hops have lower alpha acids and are used for flavoring, finishing or conditioning brews. Bitter hops have higher alpha acids and are used to impart bitterness. Tolerates shade, adapted to most well-drained soils. Plant it where you want it because you may never get rid of it. No serious pests or diseases. Native to Eurasia. Z3. (5-6" female rhizomes)

Cascade Hops USDA 19124 (Fuggle x Serebrianka-Fuggle S) x open pollinated. Oregon St U, 1972. Fragrantly aromatic, low bittering value. "While it's true that Budweiser waves a frond of this variety over their vats of 'sparkling, fermented rice and corn beverage' Cascade has gained impeccable renown as *the* charismatic hop in such unsurpassable ales as Anchor's 'Liberty Ale', Sierra Nevada's 'Pale Ale' and McNeill's 'Firehouse Amber Ale'. Nothing 'light' about these." These came from a customer whose name I lost. Thanks for your comments! Resistant to downy mildew.

3030 Cascade Hops, bundle of 3, $9.50

Willamette Hops USDA 21003 x Fuggle Seedling 2-4, USDA, 1976. Excellent all-purpose hop. Old English-style aroma with brewing characteristics similar to Fuggle. Low bittering. Spicy aroma. Good finishing hop for brewing English ales and stout. Vigorous. Higher yielding than Fuggle. Ripens midseason (late summer) and has good disease resistance.

3034 Willamette Hops, bundle of 3, $9.50

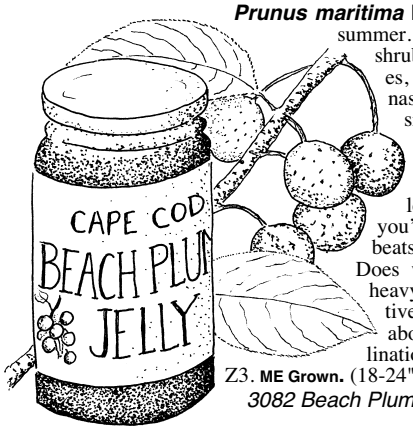
Hops

Refrigerate slightly moistened rhizomes in a plastic bag until planting. Hops prefer full sun and light-textured rich well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8.0. As soon as soil can be worked in spring, till to create a weed-free area. Dig holes about one foot deep and at least three feet apart in rows. Add manure, compost and other slow-release organic fertilizers. Plant 2 rhizomes per hole, horizontally with the buds pointed up and cover with 1-2" of loose soil. The first year the hop plant requires frequent light watering and mulching.

Hops grow vertically, with lateral sidearms extending from the main vine and producing cones. Vines may grow up to 25' in a single season, and do best if they are trained onto strong twine 12-30' high, supported by a trellis, wire, pole, tree branch or south-facing building. When the young vines are about 1' long, select 2 or 3 most vigorous vines per hill and remove the rest. Gently wrap the vines clockwise onto a string. Once trained, the vine will guide itself.

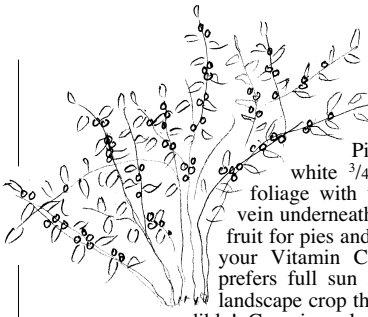
Pick the hops when they are papery, but still slightly sticky, and filled with yellow powder. Harvest dates will vary with the variety and climate. Because most hops are produced out of reach from the ground, it is safest to lower the vines in order to pick the hops. Dry hops thoroughly before use. Placed on a window screen in a dry attic, they will dry in a few weeks. Dried hops freeze well.

Cut the vines back to the ground after they have been killed by frost. Each spring apply a hearty dose of manure and compost as a top dressing. To help control hops' vigor, prune roots by cutting a 2-3' circle with a shovel around the base of the plant in spring.



***Prunus maritima* Beach Plum** 6' x 5-6' Late summer. Rounded dense suckering shrub found along ocean beaches, New Brunswick to Carolinas. It's hard to miss the profusion of white flowers on Cape Cod in May of a good year. Purplish-red 1/2-1" fruit in late summer. Excellent jams, sauces, jellies. If you're a meat eater, nothing beats beach plum jelly with lamb. Does well in poor and sandy or heavy well-drained soils. Productive, reliable, salt tolerant. Plant about 6' apart, at least 2 for pollination. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

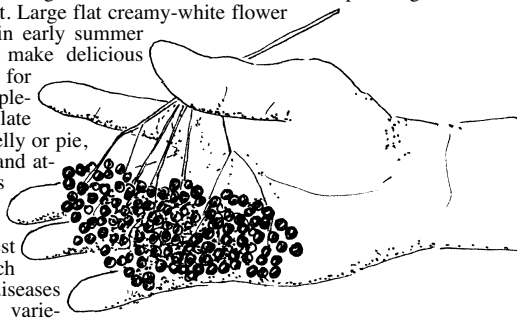
3082 Beach Plum, $9.25



***P. tomentosa* Nanking Cherry** 6-10' x same. Broad dense highly ornamental shrub, becoming open and attractively irregular. Pink buds open to masses of fragrant white 3/4" flowers. Deeply veined light green foliage with very fine fuzz (tomentosa) lining each vein underneath. Very tasty but variable tart scarlet 1/2" fruit for pies and jams. Two or three berries will provide your Vitamin C for the day. Excellent hedge plant; prefers full sun in well-drained soil. This is an edible landscape crop that produces a lot of fruit that actually *is* edible! Covering plants with netting will deter birds from robbing your crop. Plant two or more for pollination. Native to China and Japan. Z2. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

3100 Nanking Cherry, $9.25

***Sambucus canadensis* Elderberry, Sweet** or **Black-Berried Elder** 6-12' x same. Broad vigorous multistemmed shrub with spreading branches and unkempt habit. Large flat creamy-white flower clusters (cymes) in early summer cover the shrub, make delicious fritters or a tea for colds and flu. Purple-black berries in late summer used in jelly or pie, famous for wine and attract many species of birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife. Best grown in moist rich soil. Free from diseases and insects. Two varieties needed for pollination. Native to eastern U.S.



Goodbarn Chance seedling. Elwin Meader introduction, Rochester, NH. Professor Meader named this 'Goodbarn' because it was the good elderberry growing under the eaves of his barn in New Hampshire. Another of the many fine plants that Elwin's son John has brought to my attention over the years. Thanks John! Good Barn is thought to be a polyploid form of *S. c.* with unusual hardiness, vigor and apparent self-fertility. It blooms heavily and produces large crops annually. What it lacks in commercial fruit size it makes up for with its impressive productivity. Excellent for juices, jellies and wines. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

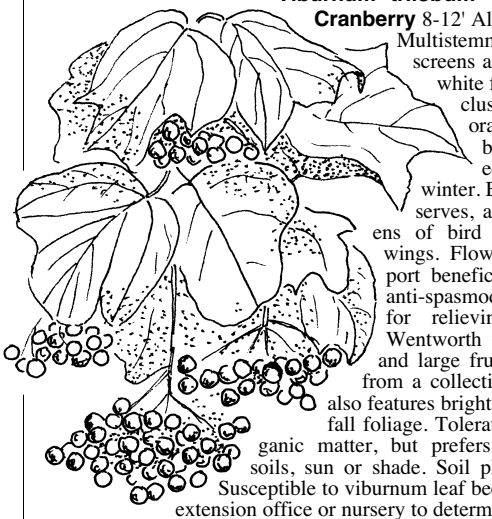
3135 Goodbarn Elderberry, $9.25

Jen's seedling Elderberry These seedlings have been grown out by Fedco's own Jen Ries. Each one will be unique. Plant two or more for fruit production or in combination with any of our named varieties. **ME Grown.** (1-yr well-rooted plants)

3136 Jen's Elderberry, $9.25

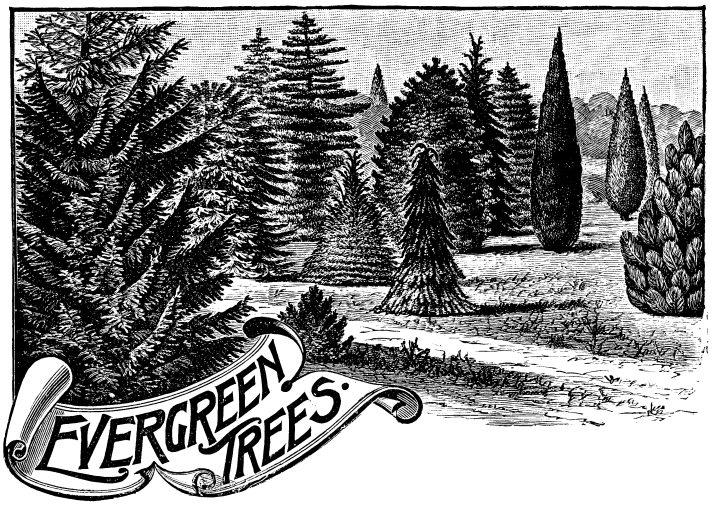
York Adams No. 2 x Ezyoff. NY Stn, 1964. Considered the largest-fruited and heaviest-bearing cultivar. Heavy clusters. Bright green foliage on a large rounded shrub. Z3. (1-yr well-rooted plants)

3140 York Elderberry, $9.25

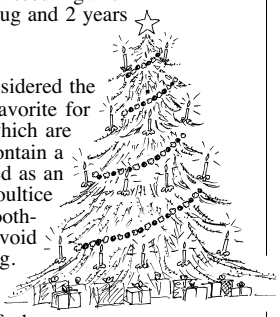


***Viburnum trilobum* Wentworth Highbush Cranberry** 8-12' Also known as **Crampbark**. Multistemmed shrub, good for screens and hedges, has clusters of white flowers in May. Pendulous clusters of brilliant red-orange berries hang September-February and are still edible off the bush in midwinter. Berries make jams and preserves, also are popular with dozens of bird species, especially waxwings. Flowers help attract and support beneficial insects. Bark used as anti-spasmodic; tea especially good for relieving menstrual cramping. Wentworth was selected for edibility and large fruit size in the early 1900s from a collection of 3000 viburnums. It also features bright lime-green leaves and red fall foliage. Tolerates dry soils if high in organic matter, but prefers rich moist well-drained soils, sun or shade. Soil pH 6-7. Pollution tolerant. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle; check with your local extension office or nursery to determine if this could be a problem. Not a bog cranberry (see #**2890**). Native from Canada to NY. Self-pollinating. Z2. **ME Grown.** (6-18" heavy transplants)

3245 Wentworth Highbush Cranberry, $9.25

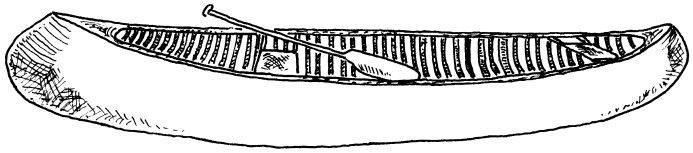


Conifers transplanted once in the nursery have a much higher success rate. These conifers are mostly three- to four-year-old transplants. 2-2TR means the plant is 4 years old: 2 years as a seedling and 2 years as a transplant. P+2 means one year as a plug and 2 years as a transplant.



***Abies balsamea* Balsam Fir** 45-75' Often considered the "only real Christmas tree." Fragrant needles, a favorite for wreaths, pillows and potpourri. Small blisters (which are fun to "pop" at other people) on younger trees contain a transparent aromatic resin that native peoples used as an inhalant for headaches and congestion, and as a poultice for burns, cuts and arthritis. Narrow, conical, smooth-barked. Prefers well-drained moist acid soils. Avoid polluted areas. Semi-shade tolerant, slow-growing. Good specimen tree and songbird nesting area, and a favorite browse of moose and deer. The most abundant conifer in Maine, "country of the pointed firs." Native Labrador to PA. Z3. (3-1TR 6-12")

3270 Balsam Fir, bundle of 5, $13.00



***Chamaecyparis thyoides* Atlantic White Cedar "Maine Strain"** 40-50' x 10-20' Also called **False Cypress**. Tall slender columnar native with sprays of fine needle-like foliage tends to lose its lower branches with age and can reach up to 85' tall. Light grey to reddish-brown bark often spirals around the trunk. Round 3" cones. Lightweight soft close-grained slightly fragrant wood for fence posts, boat building and shingles. Recommended as a specimen or grouping for low wet boggy spots. Prefers moist sandy soils and full sun. Typically found growing in large stands located in freshwater swamps, bogs and stream banks. Will not compete with hardwoods. Native eastern U.S., Maine to Florida. Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-36" tranplants)

3282 White Cedar, $10.00

Conifers tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but prefer a pH between 5.5-6.5. If you are planting in dry or well-drained areas, dip tree roots in Agri-gel solution before planting to protect roots from drying out. Do not use Agri-gel in heavy clay soils or wet areas. Do not soak conifers overnight; a good dipping is sufficient.

Before planting, prune off 1/3 of the roots. Dig a small hole or make an incision with a spade or planting bar and slip the tree in to the level it grew in the nursery. Fan the roots out; do not wind them around in the hole. It is much better to prune the roots than to crowd them in the hole. Water well and pack the earth down with your feet to remove air pockets. Young conifers need 3/4-1" of rain per week. Periodic deep waterings are far more beneficial than frequent sprinklings. No fertilization is necessary in the first year. In later years you may fertilize around the drip line.

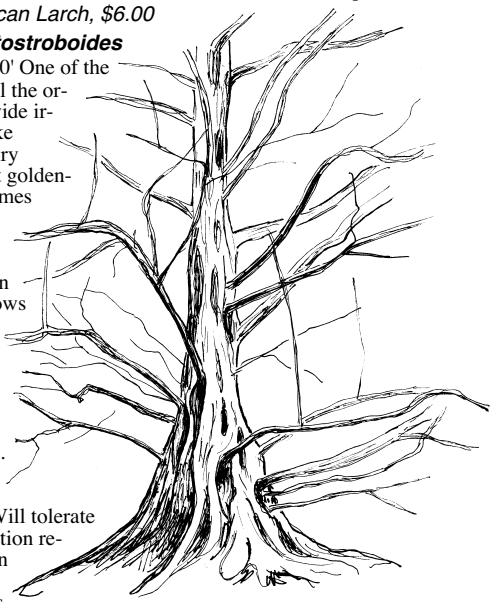
To make evergreens dense and compact, remove leader and center bud on the end of each side branch.

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. 1/2 oz.

7510 Agri-gel, $2.00

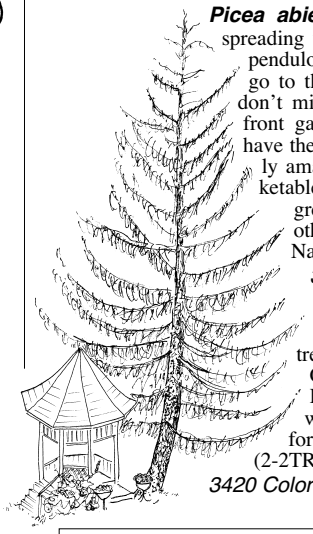
***Larix laricina* American Larch** 40-80' x 15-30' Usually called **Tamarack**, **Hackmatack** or just Hack in Maine. Called "The Larch" on Monty Python. Pyramidal deciduous conifer with grey-green foliage that turns soft golden orange before dropping in the fall. First-winter "flat-landers" might think their Hack trees are dead, but they'll green up come spring. Beautiful as a specimen or in a stand. Strongly horizontal branching habit. Incredibly tough wood used for barn floors and other punishing applications. Not a finish wood. It'll twist and check but the cows don't care. Prefers moist acidic soils and cold climates. Extremely hardy, fast growing. Native from the Arctic circle south to northern Pennsylvania. Not recommended in warmer areas. Z1. **ME Grown.** (12-16" tranplants)

3325 American Larch, $6.00



***Metasequoia glyptostroboides* Dawn Redwood** 100' One of the most spectacular of all the ornamental trees. The wide irregular trunk looks like something out of a fairy tale with its iridescent golden-orange bark that becomes deeply grooved, hollowed and fluted with age. The bright green deciduous needles turn orange in the fall. Grows quickly, up to 50' in 15-20 years, with many small-diameter horizontal branches and a uniform conical habit. Highly adaptable, easy to transplant. Prefers moist deep well-drained slightly acid soil in full sun. Will tolerate wet or dry sites. Pollution resistant; good specimen or street tree, rarely needs pruning. Fossils dating back 50 million years have been found in Japan. Thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in central China in 1941. Resembles California redwoods only vaguely. Native of China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-24" tranplants)

3350 Dawn Redwood, $14.00

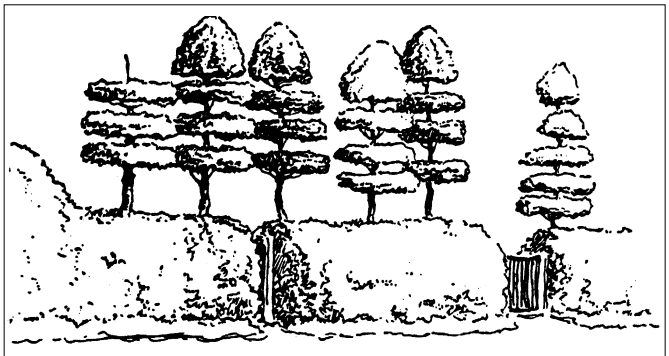


***Picea abies* Norway Spruce** 80' Fast-growing wide-spreading upright picturesque spruce with graceful long pendulous branches that often reach the ground. If you go to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA, don't miss the ancient Norway Spruce just inside the front gate. Several of its massive drooping branches have themselves turned into secondary trunks. It is truly amazing. Orange-brown scaly bark. Showy (marketable!) 4-6" cones, largest of the spruce. Bright green foliage. Prefers loam but does better than other spruces on poorer soils. Excellent lumber. Native to northern Europe. Z2. (2-2TR, 9-15")

3400 Norway Spruce, bundle of 5, $13.50

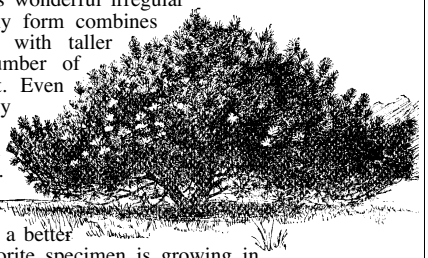
***P. pungens glauca* 'Majestic' Colorado Blue Spruce** 30-60' Very popular specimen tree with truer blue foliage than other cultivars. Can be used as a screen; fast growing after 3'. Does not like wet soil. Extra spring nitrogen will improve blue color, which doesn't appear for first few years. Native to western U.S. Z2. (2-2TR 6-12")

3420 Colorado Blue Spruce, bundle of 5, $13.50



For a formal effect, use hedge shears and prune plants to desired shape.

Pinus mugo **Mugo Pine** 15-20' x 25-80' I never appreciated this tree until I started growing it myself. Its wonderful irregular sweeping low spreading earthy form combines beautifully in the landscape with taller conifers behind and any number of shrubs or perennials in front. Even looks good in front of an ugly foundation! Although it rarely grows more than 10' tall, it can spread to be impressively wide. Prune it to thicken it and keep it as low as you want. Small cones. Although said to prefer a better soil than other pines, my favorite specimen is growing in gravel that appears to have little organic matter to speak of. Sun or partial shade. Z2. (P+2, 4-8")



3504 Mugo Pine, bundle of 5, $13.50

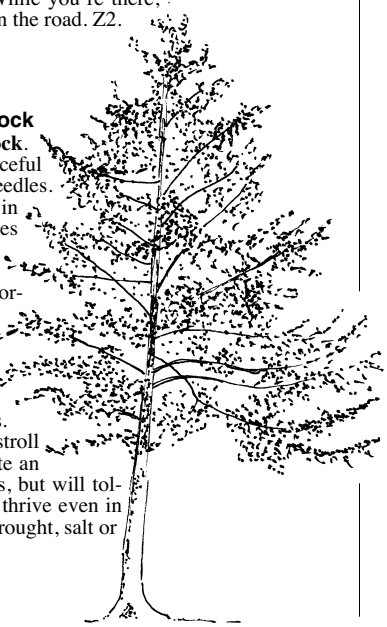
Pinus resinosa **Red Pine** 50-80' Also known as **Norway Pine**, probably because the first specimens taken to England and planted in Kew Gardens were from Norway, Maine. Others speculate that Europeans first encountered this native tree in what became Norway, Maine. Perhaps both are true. Broad irregular or rounded crown of spreading branches. Long soft 3-8" needles. $1^{1}/_{2}$-$2^{1}/_{2}$" egg-shaped cones. Distinctive pinkish-silver scaly plated bark. Fast growing; thrives in poor soil, even sand. Some of the most beautiful specimens in central Maine are growing in a mixture of sand and gravel with apparently no organic matter at all. Relatively disease-free. Nearly became extinct during the last ice age, but is making a comeback. You can help! Native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. Z3. (P+2, 9-18")

3530 Red Pine, bundle of 5, $13.50

Thuja occidentalis **Arborvitae** 20-60' Arborvitae means tree of life. Also called **Eastern White Cedar**. Narrow and tall with twiggy branches, soft orange-brown bark, and flat foliage unlike that of any other conifer. Foliage and bark tea high in vitamin C. Foliage tea helpful in infections, twig decoction makes an anti-viral anti-fungal skin wash. Valuable light fragrant wood, the standard for fence posts and log cabins in Maine. Slow-growing, lives up to 400 years. Thrives in rich moist marshy neutral-to-alkaline soils. Good for screens and hedges. Probably the first North American tree brought to Europe. Next time you're on Mount Desert, check out Thuja Gardens: beautiful cedars surrounding even more beautiful flower gardens. While you're there, visit Asticou Azalea Gardens, just down the road. Z2. (P+2, 9-15")

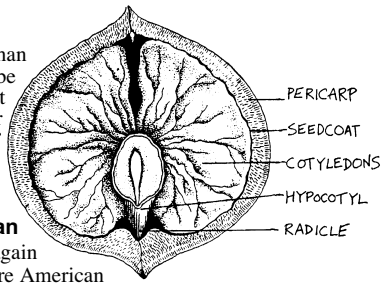
3590 American Arborvitae, bundle of 5, $13.50

Tsuga canadensis **Eastern Hemlock** 40-70' Also called **Canadian Hemlock**. One of the most beautiful conifers; graceful pyramid shape and feathery short needles. The leaves were traditionally used in teas, the branches in brooms. Groves were held sacred by native peoples. Today, hemlock lumber is a common construction wood. Valuable for bird forage and wildlife cover. Makes an excellent hedge when planted 3-4' apart. Be sure to notice the magnificent hemlock hedge surrounding the grounds if you ever visit the Tanglewood Music Center in the Berkshires. While you're there, take an hour to stroll about and look at all the trees; it's quite an arboretum. Prefers moist cool locations, but will tolerate rocky sandy acid conditions; can thrive even in considerable shade. Does not tolerate drought, salt or air pollution. Z3. (3-2TR 6-12")



3620 Eastern Hemlock, bundle of 5, $13.50

Nut Trees



Other than hazelnuts, nut trees should be planted 50' apart for nut production, 20' apart for lumber. **At least two trees of each species are required for pollination**.

Castanea dentata **American Chestnut** Up to 100' Once again we're offering seedlings of pure American Chestnuts, from seeds collected in Maine by the Maine chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. Before 1900, American Chestnut was the predominant and most important deciduous tree in the eastern U.S. The arrow-straight rot-resistant wood was used for everything from mine timbers to musical instruments. Heavy annual crops of delicious sweet nuts were an important food for wildlife and humans. When cut down, the trees quickly grew back from the stump. The Asian fungus *Cryphonetria parasitica* (chestnut blight, formerly named *Endothia parasitica*) was discovered in Brooklyn in 1904, and within 50 years it had killed virtually every chestnut tree in the eastern U.S. Recently I read an article suggesting a connection between the demise of the passenger pigeon and that of the chestnut: apparently they had a symbiotic relationship. The blight does not kill the roots however, and rare isolated stands of mature trees can still be found. The trees we're offering are blight-susceptible, but will probably thrive if there is no active blight infection within a mile. Mine are now 20' tall and look fantastic. Fast-growing and straight-trunked with a wide-branching magnificent rounded crown. Ribbed sharp-toothed dark lustrous green foliage. Yellow fall color. Fragrant white blooms in July. Prefers well-drained sandy or gravelly acid (pH 5.0–6.0) soil and sun for half the day. Two or more needed for pollination, but will cross-pollinate with Asian and European chestnuts. Space trees 20–40 feet apart. Precocious, bearing heavy crops of nuts in 10 years. From each American Chestnut purchase, Fedco will donate $4 to support the work of the American Chestnut Foundation who tell us that blight-resistant trees will be available in 2018! Z4. **ME Grown.** (8-16" transplants)

3760 American Chestnut, $18.00

Corylus americana **American Hazelnut** or **American Filbert** 15-18' x 10-15' Suckering multistemmed rounded shrub or small tree with very good $^{1}/_{2}$" nuts. Somewhat smaller but much hardier than the various foreign hybrids: hazelberts and filazels. Not our local wild Beaked Filbert, which is smaller and prickly to handle. Squirrels and bluejays will begin stealing the nuts as soon as they're ripe, so pay attention and collect the crop as soon as the husks begin to turn brown and lose their sticky yellowness. In central Maine that's around the third week of September. Cure nuts in their husks for a couple of weeks and then shell them. You can even stomp off the dry shells in a big tub as if you were juicing grapes. Showy catkins in spring and dark green serrated foliage. Prefers well-drained soils, but is pH adaptable. Full sun or light shade. Annually cutting out some suckers will keep your stand from becoming too shrubby. Highly resistant or immune to filbert blight. Native to eastern North America. Plant 8' apart. Z4. **ME Grown.** (20-36" transplants)

3785 American Hazelnut, $11.00

C. **x** ***hybrid*** **Precocious Hazelbert** 12x12' This hybrid hazelbert (or hazelnut) was developed by Oikos Tree Crops in Michigan from selected filazels and hazelberts. It includes both American and European parentage. Fedco grower Anne Hallee received Precocious nuts from Oikos and has been growing them out. Vigorous shrubby suckering plant takes 3-4 years to bear. Medium-sized nut. Plant about 2' apart to create a hedge and ensure good pollination. Good resistance to filbert blight. Z4. **ME Grown.** (10-16" transplants)

3799 Precocious Hazelbert, $11.00

Juglans cinerea **Butternut** 40-70' Very large rounded shade tree producing edible nuts. Short straight trunk and a broad open crown. Sometimes looks almost tropical with its distinctive compound leaves on long arching branches that can hang nearly to the ground. Leafs out relatively late in the spring. Sometimes I think mine has died over winter, but not so. Oblong edible nut used by native people to make oil. Soft young nut can be pickled for eating. Yellow-orange dye from husks. Very nice cabinet wood sometimes called White Walnut. Prefers moist rich deep soils with pH 6-7, but will grow in dry rocky conditions. Give it plenty of space to reach its full expression. Native New Brunswick to Georgia. Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

3805 Butternut, $11.00

J. nigra **Black Walnut** 70-90' Magnificent open rounded crown of massive limbs with dark green leaves. Highly valued cabinet and veneer wood. Thick-shelled edible nuts have an intense distinctive flavor. Their husks yield a rich brown dye. Husks, leaves and roots are all anti-fungal. Deep taproot. Prefers moist, well-drained soils, pH 6-7. Roots give off a compound, juglone, which inhibits competing plants, so don't plant one too close to your garden. Once again Anne Hallee grew this year's crop from seeds collected in Belfast. Native to eastern U.S. though not quite into Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

3815 Black Walnut, $11.00

Fedco Trees 2007

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903
fax 207-872-8317

from mailing label CC-_____

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

UPS (include your road name)_____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

phone _____

✓ Check this box if you will *not* accept substitutions ❑

Delivery Options ✓ choose one:

❑ **Ship** in mid-April. Our last shipment is April 16.

❑ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.

❑ **Ship** around May 3. (Add $15 fee to shipping charges.)

Order online
www.fedcoseeds.com
Catalogs and additional order sheets may be downloaded at our website.

Volume Discounts
(only orders received by 12/8/06)
Subtotal over $200 take 10%
over $400 take 15%

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
New England	$7.00	over $70.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
NY, NJ, & PA	$9.00	over $90.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
All other states	$14.00	over $140.00, pay 10% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$14.00	over $70.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Shipping Charge		
+ Box charge	+	**$5.00**
Shipping	=	

Subtotal from reverse	
Volume Discount	−
Adjusted Total	=
ME residents & pickups add 5% **Tax**	+
Shipping	+
Add **$2** if you fax your order	+
Grand Total	=

Did you remember the box charge?

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Final order deadline March 9, 2007

❑ Donate all my refund to MOFGA
❑ up to $5.00
❑ up to $2.00

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- **Complete ordering information on page 3.**
- Please fill out the address information and totals blocks above. We *must* have a road name for UPS delivery.
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, send a SASE for the order form or download it from our website.
- If you want Priority Mail delivery, minimum shipping charge is $14 or 20% for orders with an adjusted total over $70.
- We will add a $10 handling fee if you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 4 and April 16; we will add a $15 handling fee if you specify a shipping date within this period or if you specify shipment around May 3.
- Consider donating your refund to the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Permanent Site Fund.

Fedco Trees 2007: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

	Item #	Number of pkgs.	Number of plants	Description	Price per package	Total Price
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If you are ordering more than 28 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

Subtotal
(carry to other side)

Suggestions:

Fedco Trees 2007

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903
fax 207-872-8317

from mailing label CC-_____

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

UPS (include your road name)_____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

phone _____

✓ Check this box if you will *not* accept substitutions ❑

Delivery Options ✓ choose one:

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Order online
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Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

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+ Box charge	+	**$5.00**
Shipping	=	

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Adjusted Total	=
ME residents & pickups add 5% **Tax**	+
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Fedco Trees 2007: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

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If you are ordering more than 28 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

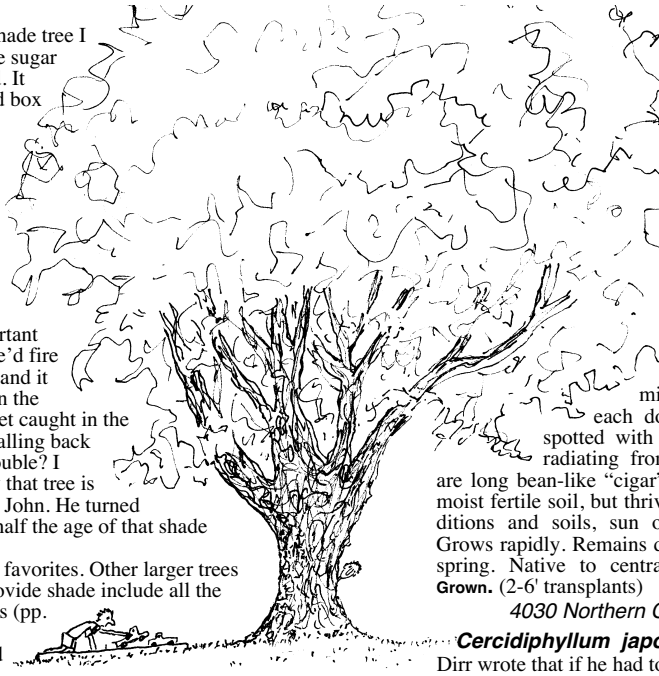
Subtotal
(carry to other side)

Suggestions:

Shade Trees

The first shade tree I really got to know was an immense sugar maple in Johnny Shaw's back yard. It stood only a few feet from the sand box in which we played hundreds of times. I suppose Uncle John built the sand box next to that tree to provide shade for us on hot summer days. It worked. It also provided good cover. I recall peeking around its huge trunk, spying on Aunt Meb while she cut asparagus in her large vegetable garden across the lawn. In later years that maple provided an important obstacle in our step ball games. We'd fire an old tennis ball against the steps and it would soar up into the air as we ran the bases. Occasionally a ball would get caught in the leaves and bounce around before falling back to earth. Was that a ground-rule double? I don't recall. I think I'll go see how that tree is doing next time I'm visiting Uncle John. He turned 95 in July. That makes him about half the age of that shade tree.

Each year we offer some of our favorites. Other larger trees throughout the catalog that will provide shade include all the apples (pages 8-15), all the conifers (pp. 29-30), some of the nuts (p. 30), several crabapples (pp. 34-35), and the Japanese Tree Lilac (p. 33).



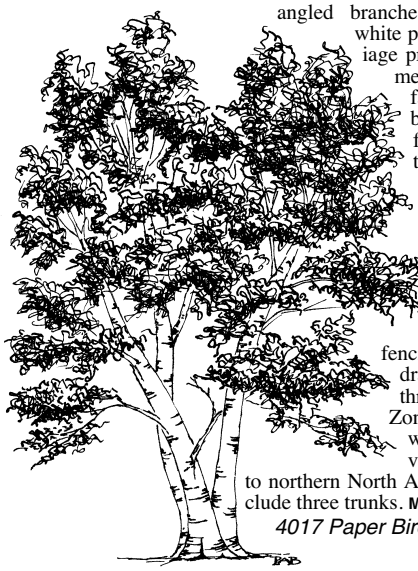
***Acer rubrum* Red Maple** 50-60' Also known as **Swamp Maple**. While the Sugar Maple often has a bushier shape, the Red Maple usually has a central leader and a more upright growth habit. In early spring the dark red flowers cover the driveway long before any leaves appear. In the fall the foliage turns electric orange, yellow, brilliant red or maybe all three on one tree. The astounding combinations of colors surround me as I head off in my truck to go apple exploring every October. Excellent in the yard. Does not have the weak branching problems of Silver Maple. Sometimes tapped for sap in spring. Transplants easily. Prefers moist acid conditions but is adaptable to dry locations. Note that this is *not* the red-leaf maple *A. platanoides* 'Crimson King'. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

3985 Red Maple, $16.00

***A. saccharum* Sugar Maple** 50-100' Largest of our native maples, also known as **Rock Maple**, valued for shade, syrup, and lumber. Famous for its yellow gold scarlet and crimson fall foliage. Light grey bark. Fresh sap a spring treat. Very hardy. Shade tolerant, making it easy to interplant in existing woods. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Huge upright spreading form. Traditionally a pair of sugar maples was often planted in front of a farmhouse on the inhabitants' wedding day. Those "wedding trees" still grace many Maine front yards after all these years. Susceptible to salt and air pollution; not a good city tree. Native Quebec to Gulf Coast. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

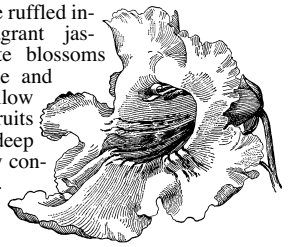
3990 Sugar Maple, $16.00

***Betula papyrifera* Paper Birch, Canoe Birch** or **White Birch Clump** 30-70' x 30' Medium-sized tree with an irregular oval shape, upright angled branches and magnificent chalk-white peeling bark. Deep green foliage produces light shade in summer and turns clear yellow in fall. Birds prize the catkins, buds and seeds. Twigs are a favorite deer browse. Bark traditionally used for canoes, containers and roofing. I've even seen it used as an amazing wallpaper. Wood quite valuable at the sawmill. Sap makes an excellent "maple" syrup. Branches, stuck into the ground, make great pea fencing. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil though ours thrive on ledge. At its best in Zone 4 or colder, but grows well as far south as Pennsylvania, about Zone 6. Native to northern North America. Each clump will include three trunks. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)



4017 Paper Birch clump, $14.00

***Catalpa speciosa* Northern Catalpa** 40-60' Also known as **Western Catalpa**, **Elephant Ear Tree**, **Catawba** and **Cigar Tree**. If you can't afford orchids for that special someone, plant a Catalpa and you'll be swimming in orchid-like flowers early every summer. With its form, its foliage and its flowers, this tree looks great on the street and great in the yard. Fast-growing coarse habit with a somewhat narrow open irregular crown and thick interesting undulant branches. Dense foliage of huge "elephant ear" heart-shaped leaves provides excellent shade. Covered in early summer with clusters of orchid-like ruffled incredibly fragrant jasmine-scented white blossoms each dotted with purple and spotted with rich buttery yellow radiating from the throat. Fruits are long bean-like "cigar" pods. Prefers deep moist fertile soil, but thrives in almost any conditions and soils, sun or partial shade. Grows rapidly. Remains dormant late into spring. Native to central U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-6' transplants)



4030 Northern Catalpa, $11.00

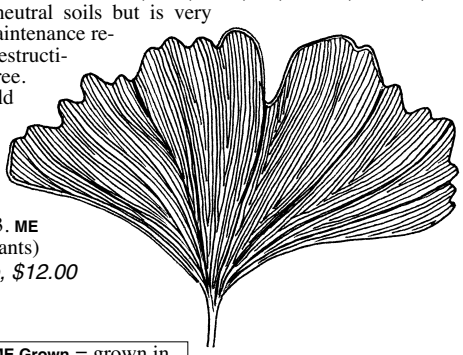
***Cercidiphyllum japonicum* Katsuratree** 40-60' x 20-30' Michael Dirr wrote that if he had to pick one favorite tree, it would be the katsuratree. He calls it "overwhelming in overall attractiveness." For years friends have been telling us to offer it in the catalog. We apologize for not having done so long ago. Multi-trunked, pyramidal to wide spreading form. The beautiful drooping heart-shaped foliage emerges a glowing reddish purple, becomes bluish-green during the summer and turns a delightful apricot-yellow in fall. Shaggy bark. Not well known, but incredibly popular with anyone who's ever seen it. Spectacular specimen tree. May be difficult to transplant. Rich moist well-drained soil is recommended. Supplemental watering during the first couple of years may help the young tree to become established. After that it'll be fast growing. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. (30-48" transplants)

4046 Katsuratree, $15.00

***Fagus sylvatica* 'Purpurea' Purple Beech** 50-60' x 40-60' Also called **Copper Beech**. Discovered in the Hanleiter Forest near Sondershausen, Germany, before 1772. Purple-leafed form of the European Beech. A massive and incredibly magnificent tree that is widely planted in central and southern New England though not so common up this way. There are some absolutely breath-taking specimens in the Boston area. The coloring is awesome: deep purples and maroons, reds, and even orange, depending on the position of the sun. The rounded form reminds me of a gigantic gum drop or maybe a lady's old-fashioned hoop skirt. A thickly foliated curtain of branches hangs to the ground, forming a huge inner sanctuary. Looking up from inside the canopy, the undersides of the leaves are luminescent emerald green. It's unbelievable. Slow to medium-fast growing. Beautiful thick smooth grey bark—the kind that makes you want to start carving hearts. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil. Native to Europe. Hardy in the warmer areas of Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

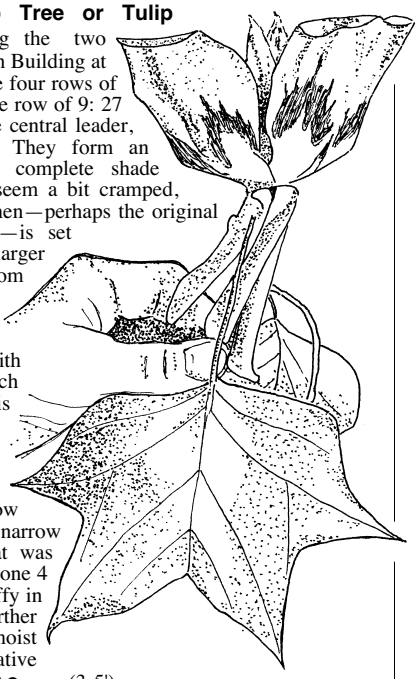
4065 Purple Beech, $16.00

***Ginkgo biloba* Ginkgo** 50-80' Also called **Maidenhair Tree**. Considered the oldest living genus of seed plants; grew in North America in the time of the dinosaurs. Upright when young with branches that spike out and up like the rays of the sun, eventually becoming wide-spreading and graceful. Slow-growing, can be extremely long-lived. Unique fine-cut fan-shaped foliage turns sparkling golden-yellow in fall, then all at once the leaves drop and within hours the tree is bare. Edible seeds, produced on female trees after 20-50 years, widely used in Asia. Leaf tea taken to enhance circulation to the brain and extremities. Tolerates smoke, dust, wind, ice, insects, disease, salt. Prefers moist sandy neutral soils but is very adaptable. Minimal maintenance requirements, nearly indestructible, an excellent city tree. There are 3000-year-old specimens in China. Male and female tree required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. Native to southeastern China. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)



4090 Ginkgo, $12.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



***Liriodendron tulipifera* Tulip Tree or Tulip Poplar** 70-90' x 50-100' Lining the two driveways leading up to the Watson Building at the New York Botanic Gardens are four rows of tulip trees. Three rows of 6 and one row of 9: 27 in all. Each tree has a huge single central leader, roughly three feet at the butt. They form an immense solid canopy creating complete shade below. Amazingly enough, they seem a bit cramped, even spaced 55' apart. One specimen—perhaps the original and inspiration for the planting—is set back slightly off line. Its trunk is larger than the others and with more room to move, the spread is 110'. This is a magnificent shade tree. Large undulating horizontal branching and a mass of foliage. Decorated with tulip-like flowers in late spring. Each 6-petaled light yellow flower is ornamented with a bright orange band that extends from petal to petal, visible inside and out. Deeply grooved silvery-grey bark. Flat green foliage has golden-yellow fall color. Will adapt itself to more narrow settings. Recently I saw one that was *only* 40' wide. Doing well in one Zone 4 nursery but should be considered iffy in most of Maine until we do further trials. Prefers full sun and deep moist well-drained slightly acid loam. Native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-5')

4114 Tulip Tree, $14.00

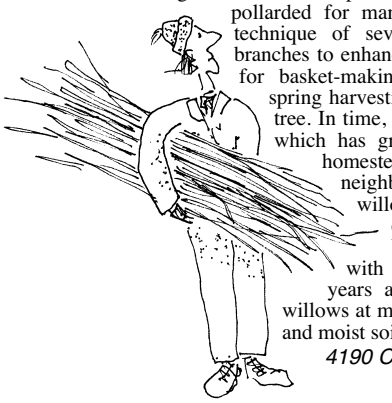
***Quercus bicolor* Swamp White Oak** or **Bicolor Oak** 50-60' x same. A massive rounded shade tree with a short deeply ridged trunk and a fan of branches, those uppermost ascending and those lower drooping. The contrast between the light grey bark and the dark trunk fissures is particularly striking. Called Swamp White in recognition of its affinity to the wild low wetlands that once peppered eastern North America before the days of the parking lot and the big box. Called Bicolor because its large thick leathery lobed leaves have a glossy dark green upper surface and a white to greyish-green hairy felty underside. Its large 1 1/2" sweet acorns are highly attractive to wildlife, particularly water fowl, sapsuckers and (ugh) squirrels. Its yellow to reddish-purple fall foliage persists until spring. Prefers moist, acid soils where drainage is poor, but exhibits excellent drought resistance as well. Very fast growing once established. Native northeastern U.S. Z3. (2-4' transplants)

4150 Swamp White Oak, $14.00

***Q. rubra* Red Oak** 60-80' Also called **Northern Red Oak**. The most common oak in northern New England and a common tree in central Maine. Typically a single large trunk dividing into several large ascending spreading branches. While the branches are not as massive as some of the other oaks, its open rounded crown is magnificently impressive. The trunk is a deep grey textured web of surfaces overlaid upon one another. Fast growing, up to two feet per year. Prefers well-drained sandy slightly acid soils. Those on my farm thrive in the shallow ledgey ground. Will tolerate shade, compacted soil, salt, pollution and other urban conditions. Sharply toothed foliage turns orange-tan during apple season. The 1" acorns feed the native population and sprout with ease more or less wherever they land. Eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

4170 Red Oak, $14.00

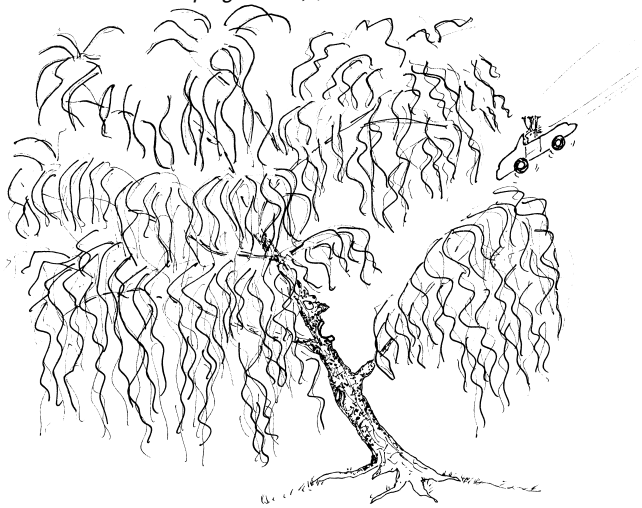
***Salix* spp. 'Cape Rosier' Basket Willow** 50' more or less. If you're looking to make a basket, a bowl or maybe a boat this could be the only material you need. Beautiful subtly golden-colored basket willow propagated from the old Nearing Homestead on Cape Rosier, ME. Their trees have been pollarded for many years, a European pruning technique of severely cutting back the main branches to enhance the formation of long whips for basket-making. This enables easy annual spring harvesting and controls the size of the tree. In time, the trees develop a gnarly head which has great character. Stanley Joseph, homesteader on Cape Rosier and neighbor of the Nearings, used this willow for many years to make everything from baskets to boats (the Irish coracle). It was with Stanley's encouragement many years ago that I first planted basket willows at my home in Palermo. Prefers sun and moist soils. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-6')



4190 Cape Rosier Willow, $13.00

***S. alba* 'Tristis' Niobe Weeping Willow** 50x50' The classic weeping willow, a very large majestic and extremely graceful wide-spreading tree. Golden drooping branches can hang to the ground. Branches used for basket weaving; golden bark and leaves used medicinally. Not to be confused with the Whomping Willow of Hogwarts fame—branches sway freely in the breeze but are unlikely to attack, though roots have been known to disrupt plumbing. Easily transplanted and fast growing. Prefers sun and moist soils. Native to southern Europe and western Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (4-5' transplants)

4195 Niobe Weeping Willow, $9.00

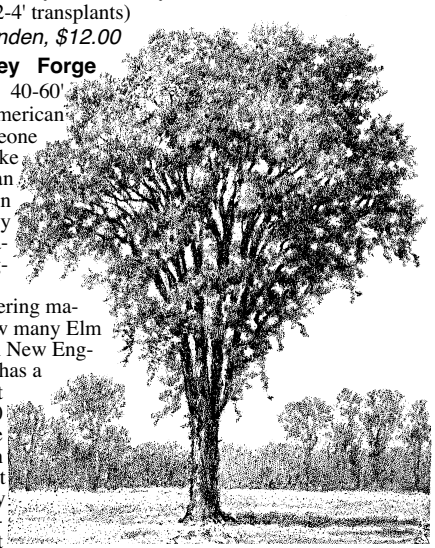


***S. matsudana* 'Snake' Snake WIllow** 30-50' A fast-growing wide oval tree with distinctively curled wiggled and twisted branches. The twigs look like sine waves—or maybe the stock market. Even the foliage loops and curls. Snake is a selection of the standard contorted 'Tortuosa' willow with an even more wild branching habit. Interesting outside in the yard and beautiful in a wreath or a vase. Quite nice as a young specimen. Keep it pruned and keep it small if you like. Drought tolerant, although like the other willows, it'll thrive in a moist location. Native to Argentina. Generally considered a Zone 5 plant, although you might find it does well in Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (2-4' tranplants)

4200 Snake Willow, $9.00

***Tilia americana* American Linden** 60-80' Also known as **Basswood**. Tall stately tree with rounded crown and numerous low-hung spreading branches. Good tree for attracting bees no matter how remote the location. Sweetly fragrant yellow June flowers reputed to make the best honey, also a popular after-dinner tea and stomach remedy. I consider it the best soft carving wood. Inner bark, tough and fibrous, used for ropes and nets. Young fruit and flowers ground into a paste as a chocolate substitute. Yellow fall color. Likes deep rich moist soils, but will grow in dry heavier soils. Full sun or partial shade. Sensitive to salt and pollution. Tolerates alkaline soil. Subject to Japanese beetles and other insect damage, though control measures are seldom needed. May live to 900 years. Native New Brunswick to Virginia. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

4205 American Linden, $12.00

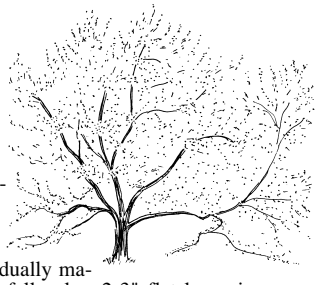


***Ulmus americana* Valley Forge American Elm** 60-80' x 40-60' *The* most famous of all American shade trees. Long ago someone had the brilliant idea to take this native of the American swamp land and plant it in their front yard. Boy did they start something. For generations, nearly every New England street and green was graced by lines of these towering majestic vase shaped trees. How many Elm Cities and Elm Streets are in New England? Lots. Waterville even has a barren expanse of asphalt called Elm Plaza. In 1930 the trees began to die by the thousands, victims of Dutch elm disease. Now most, but not all, are gone. Many groups have been attempting to reintroduce resistant selections. Valley Forge has been the most DED tolerant elm in trials in Ohio and Maryland. We think it's worth trialing in New England. Easy to transplant. Grows rapidly once established. Prefers it moist but is soil and pH adaptable. Pollution, drought and salt tolerant. Native to eastern North America. Species hardy to Z2. **ME Grown.** (3-5')

4215 Valley Forge Elm, $20.00

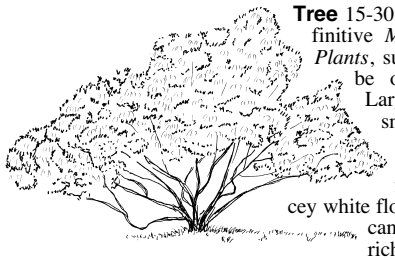
Ornamental Trees

Although some of these smaller trees are certainly large enough to provide shade and others may provide excellent wildlife food and cover, their chief attribute tends to be their beauty. Some have spectacular blooms while others have amazing foliage, fragrance, bark, branch structure or overall appearance. All deserve to be planted more often than they are.



Cercis canadensis **Redbud** 25-30' Small irregularly vase-shaped tree is one of the most wonderfully ornamental. Clusters of small brilliant purplish-pink pea-like flowers in early spring are so abundant it seems that any place there could possibly be a flower there is one: they dot the graceful branches themselves and even come right out of the trunk. It's an astonishing sight. Very large, up to 7", heart-shaped leaves emerge a beautiful opaque pink, gradually mature to deep green and give bright yellow fall color. 2-3" flat leguminous pods. Excellent honey plant. Sun or partial shade. Fine as a specimen tree or in groups. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 4. Native to central and eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-6' transplants)

4240 Redbud, $16.00



Chionanthus virginicus **White Fringe Tree** 15-30' x 30' Michael Dirr, in his definitive *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, suggests that fringe tree should be our national shrub. I agree. Large multistemmed shrub or small tree with an open spreading rounded form. So completely covered with lightly fragrant clouds of feathery lacey white flower-clusters in spring that you can hardy see the beautiful glossy rich dark green foliage when it's in bloom. From a distance, it looks like a tree with a poof. Spectacular as a specimen, in groups, borders, near buldings. Small bluish-black fruit sought by birds. Adaptable, but prefers moist fertile acid soil. Tolerates air pollution; does well in cities. Native of eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-year 18-24" transplants)

4245 Fringe tree, $16.00

Cornus alternifolia **Pagoda Dogwood** 20' x 30-35' Also known as **Alternate-Leaved Dogwood**. Small tree or large multistemmed shrub, particularly beautiful for its tiers of horizontal branches and their distinct sympodial (consecutive "Y's") branching habit right down to the smallest twigs. Extremely fragrant white 2-3" flower clusters in mid-late spring, followed by immature olive-green berries, each tipped with a tiny bright yellow style remnant. In midsummer clusters of dark blue berries ripen above the blue-green foliage. One of the most popular dogwoods with the birds. Prefers partial shade and moist well-drained acid soil, but tolerates full sun, poor soil and even clay. pH adaptable. Excellent naturalized as a specimen or in groups and often found growing with sugar maple, beech and basswood. Reddish-purple fall color. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-30" transplants)

4255 Pagoda Dogwood, $10.50

Hamamelis virginiana **Witch Hazel** 20-30' A small tree or large shrub of irregular rounded form and interesting crooked branches. Yellow 1/2" flowers with a unique fresh fragrance appear in the fall. Oval wavy-edged foliage opens ruddy red, matures to a matte green and then climaxes a brilliant golden-yellow. Witch hazel extract, from leaves, young bark and roots, has astringent and antiseptic uses. Said to be the preferred wood of dowsers. Full sun or shade. Prefers moist acid soils; avoid dry spots. No pests or diseases, does well with very little care. Native Canada to Georgia. Z3. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)

4332 Witch Hazel, $9.25

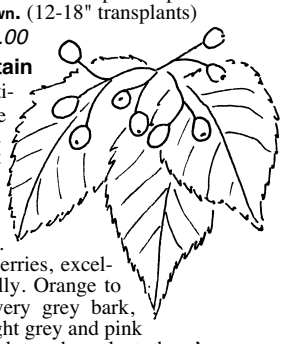
Heptacodium miconioides **Seven-son Flower** 10-12' x same. Arnold Arboretum, 1980. Small showy rounded layered multistemmed tree or large shrub with panicles of sweetly fragrant small white flowers in late summer. Bees love it. Over time, the flower sepals turn pink and persist, contrasting with the green foliage. The foliage itself is quite distinctive: long, pointed, curved, folded and hanging in clusters. Reminiscent of peach leaves. Attractive exfoliating bark. Recently introduced from China by the Arnold Arboretum. There's an extremely nice specimen at Tower Hill Botanic Gardens in Massachusetts. Full sun to partial shade. Slightly acid soil. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (18-30" transplants)

4341 Seven-son Flower, $16.00

Malus **Crabapples** *4553-4797* on pages 34-35.

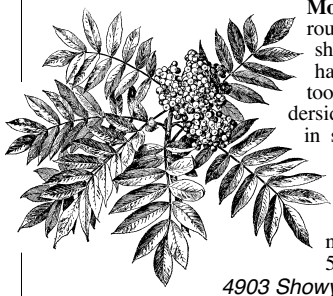
Salix discolor rosea **French Pink Pussy Willow** 20x15' Highly attractive small tree or shrub. This plant is new to us and we're not certain of its potential size. We do know it's quite vigorous and will grow to about 5 feet square in 3 years. Dark green foliage with a wonderful soft silver velvety underside reminiscent of kitten fuzz. New bud growth is pink fading to light green and then dark green. Spring catkins are similar to the the annually popular showy native pussy willow. Winter branch color is a vibrant reddish-pink. Very striking! If possible, plant it where you can cut branches in spring for your kitchen vase. Full sun to partial shade, soil adaptable. Like most willows, moist soils are a plus. Species native to northeastern North America. Z2. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

4894 Pink Pussy Willow, $12.00



Sorbus alnifolia **Korean Mountain Ash** 30-50' x 20-30' Upright multi-trunked small rounded tree. Attractive simple alternate serrated deeply-ribbed opaque bluish-green foliage reminiscent of elm or alder. Does not have the typical compound foliage of the other mountain ash species. Showy bright white umbel-like blossoms in spring. Spectacular fall show of small scarlet berries, excellent for bird forage or a very decent jelly. Orange to scarlet-purple fall foliage. Smooth silvery grey bark, highlighted with a diamond pattern of light grey and pink fissures. Though generally not considered an urban plant, there's a very nice one growing in the parking lot of the Mount Auburn Cemetery in downtown Cambridge. At its best as a specimen where it can be seen. Will thrive in any well-drained soil. pH adaptable. Native to eastern Asia. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

4901 Korean Mountain Ash, $17.00



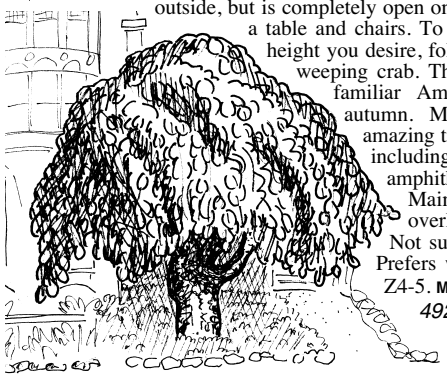
S. decora **Showy Mountain Ash** 20-25' Also known as **Northern Mountain Ash**. Small tree with a spreading rounded crown and classic mountain ash leaf shape; each of the pinnately compound leaves has about a dozen blue-green long narrow toothed leaflets, somewhat whitened on the underside. Showy bright white umbel-like blossoms in spring, large bright red berries, yellow-red fall color. Oddly enough, you can graft pears onto mountain ash. Definitely a way to surprise your neighbors. Prefers moist soils. Hardiest of the mountain ash. Native of northeast U.S. and Canada. Z2. **ME Grown.** (4-5' transplants)

4903 Showy Mountain Ash, $17.00

Syringa reticulata **Japanese Tree Lilac** 20-30' x 15-25' What a treat to sit beneath a blooming tree lilac in early summer with fragrant petals dropping all around as the bumblebees work the last snow-white blossoms. Large lacy triangular creamy-white panicles—each made up of countless tiny 4-petaled flowers—perch above the canopy of dark green foliage. Their wonderful fragrance is reminiscent of almond extract. Reddish brown cherry-like bark is grooved and checked. The tree itself has a rounded irregular habit. Strip off lower buds to ensure tree form. Full sun to partial shade and well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8. Resistant to lilac borers and powdery mildew. Beautiful as a specimen or in groups. Salt- and drought-tolerant. Native of Japan. See page 43 for other lilacs. Z3. (2-4' transplants)

4912 Japanese Tree Lilac, $11.00

Ulmus glabra **'Camperdownii' Camperdown Elm** 15x30' Discovered in 1640 in Dundee, Scotland, by the Earl of Camperdown who recognized its unique and wonderful shape, and grafted it onto a Scotch or Wych elm (*U. glabra*). All the Camperdown elms in the world come from that original tree. Low-growing mounded very wide-spreading weeping form. Somewhat contorted branches laden with thick dark green summer foliage hang to the ground, creating a protected "room" which looks quite dense from the outside, but is completely open on the inside—plenty of space for a table and chairs. To establish weeping habit for the height you desire, follow instructions on page 35 for weeping crab. The leaves, much larger than the familiar American elm's, turn yellow in autumn. Many older specimens of this amazing tree are thriving around the state, including those by the Camden amphitheater and the two next to the Maine State Capitol's entryway, overlooking the Kennebec River. Not susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Prefers well-drained moist fertile soils. Z4-5. **ME Grown.** (3-4' grafted trees)



4923 Camperdown Elm, $40.00

Malus Flowering Crabapples

A crabapple is an apple with fruit smaller than 2" in diameter. Of the 24 recognized species of apples, most are considered to be crabs. Some produce no fruit at all or fruit so small you'd hardly know it's there. Others produce fruit as sweet as candy, or fruit for wonderful jellies and pickles or cider, or masses of persistent fruit that will attract birds all winter and into spring.

A crab's most glamorous attraction is its bloom. Pinks and reds are often the most sought-after. However, white-flowering varieties can be stunning with their simultaneous explosion of red and pink buds, soft green foliage and pure white flowers.

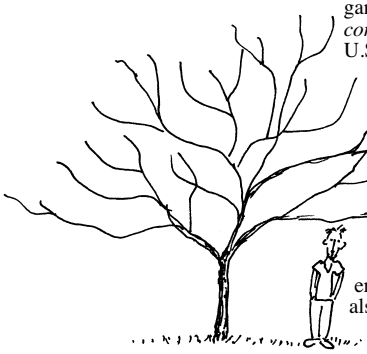
A good crabapple tree is one with four-season interest. Spring flowers, summer shade, fall and winter fruit, and year-round shape and branching habit are all part of what makes a crab so wonderful to have in the yard. I limit pruning to a touch-up here and there, preferring to allow each to take on its own unique identity.

My own love of crabapples stems (pardon the pun) largely from visits to the excellent collections in the Arnold Arboretum in Boston and the Lyle Littlefield Gardens in Orono. The Arnold has one of the most extensive in the world. The best book is John Fiala's definitive text, *Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus*.

Most crabapples bloom annually in May just before the lilacs and make excellent pollinators for any apple. (3½-6' trees)

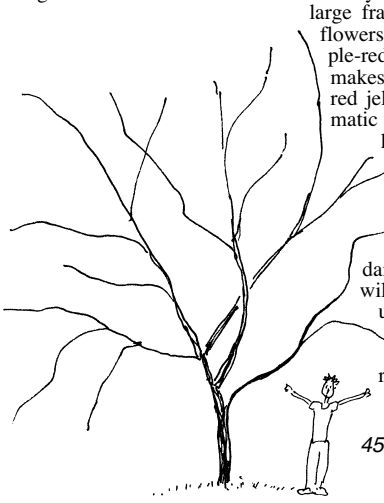
Brandywine *M. ioensis* 'Plena' Klehm's No. 8 (*M.* x *purpurea* 'Lemoinei' x *M.* 'Klehm's Improved'). We graft all the crabapple trees in the catalog. We hoped to include the patented Brandywine in our selection, but have not received permission to do so. And, we won't. So, we sought suitable alternatives—not an easy task—and found two: Prairie Rose (**#4731**) and Prince Georges (**#4736**). Like Brandywine, both are selections of *M. ioensis* and bloom very late. Both have incredible fragrance and multi-petaled flowers that resemble spectacular roses. Neither has Brandywine's useless fruit. We hope you'll join us on the no-patent band wagon and give these two a try. ***Brandywine not offered in 2007.***

Charlottae 20' x 20-25' (*M. coronaria* var. *dasycalyx* 'Charlottae') Waukegan, Ill, 1902. Chance seedling of *M. coronaria*, the native crab of eastern U.S. Breathtaking even before bloom with its plump buds, blushed faint apricot-pink and veined in red. Looks like a peppermint stick ice cream cone. In full bloom it takes on a peachy pink hue, with semi-double to double 1½" cupped whitish flowers with yellow stamens, 12-20 petals per bloom, each petal reverse still veined in red. Spectacular. The flowers have a wonderful subtle fragrance. A bowl of the fragrant greenish-yellow fruit will scent the whole room. Medium-sized rounded form, with a trunk of shaggy grey and beech-like smooth silver branches that give the tree an almost skeletal appearance in winter. Said to be disease susceptible, but not that I've seen. Late blooming. Z4. **ME Grown.**



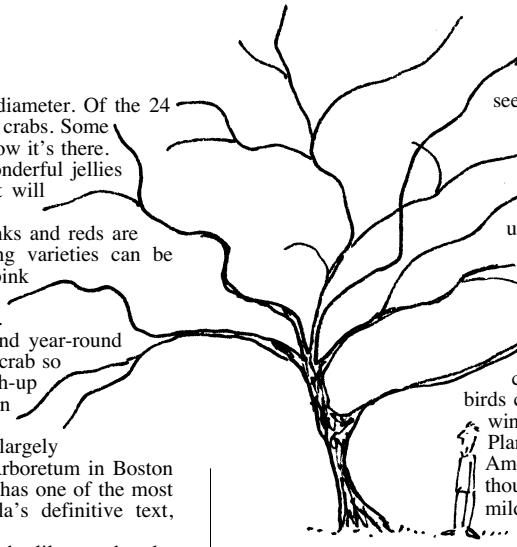
4553 Charlottae, $19.00

Dolgo 25x30' Summer. From seed collected by NE Hansen of *M.* x *robusta* in 1897 at the Imperial Botanical Gardens, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Dolgo* means 'long' in Russian.) Introduced in the U.S. in 1917. *The* classic flowering crab still found in old Maine backyards. Apricot-pink buds and large fragrant 2" pure white single flowers bloom early. Beautiful purple-red 1½" teardrop-shaped fruit makes flavorful clear bright ruby-red jelly. In recent years the aromatic very sweet, very acidic fruit has found favor with hard cider makers. Also useful for canning and pickling. Vigorous large blocky upright spreading tree consistently yields abundant crops. Lower branches will drape to the ground if left unpruned. Dependable pollinator for all apples. Parent of many named varieties including Centennial, Kerr and Spring Snow. Quite hardy. Z2. **ME Grown.**



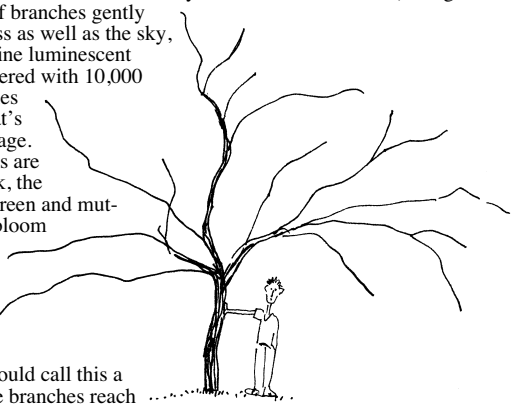
4575 Dolgo, $19.00

Donald Wyman 20x30' Chance seedling. Arnold Arboretum, 1970. Deep pink buds and large 2" single white flowers early in the season. The bloom is so intense, the tree looks like one massive flower. Beautiful medium-dense rounded and wide-spreading medium-sized tree with attractive glossy green foliage. Looks great when it has room to spread out. The shape alone is enough to recommend this cultivar. The bright 3/8" red oval fruit completely covers the tree in clusters and persists until spring when the birds clean it off in time for the next bloom. 2001 winner of the Carey Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. Named in honor of America's great horticulturist. Disease-free, although said to be slightly susceptible to powdery mildew. Z4. **ME Grown.**



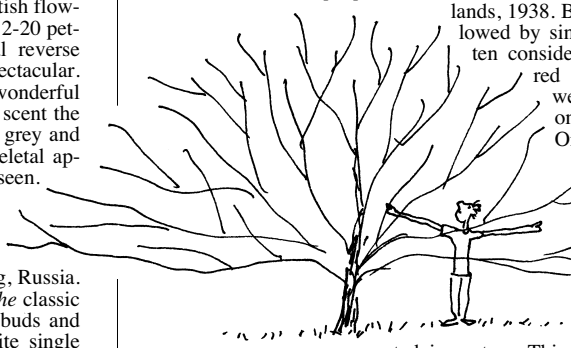
4579 Donald Wyman, $19.00

Gracilis 15x25' (No. 329 *M. baccata* seed collected by William Purdon in 1910 in China, introduced in the U.S. by the Arnold Arboretum.) Imagine a tree with layers of branches gently sweeping the grass as well as the sky, with mounds of fine luminescent green foliage covered with 10,000 snow drops or lilies of the valley. That's Gracilis in bud stage. Although the buds are actually faint pink, the overall effect is green and muted white. In full bloom the thousands of very small single white blossoms give the tree a lacy ethereal aura. Unique among crabs. I would call this a semi-weeper. The branches reach and drape. Incredibly beautiful tree. Tiny fruit. Should be staked until it reaches desired height. Z3. **ME Grown.**



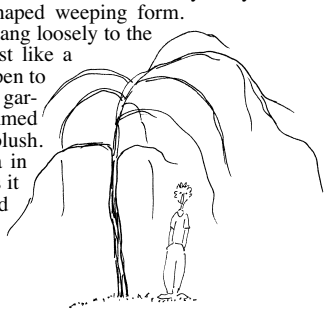
4600 Gracilis, $21.00

Liset 15x20' (*M.* x *purpurea* 'Lemoinei' x *M. sieboldii*) The Hague, Netherlands, 1938. Bright crimson-red buds, followed by single red-orange flowers, often considered the brightest and most red of any crab. Although not well-known, Liset shows up on every "Best Crabs" list. Once you see it, it's hard not to agree. Now that I've got one in my yard, I'm learning to love the glowing reddish copper deep green foliage. I prefer it over any of the other "red-leaf" cultivars, including the new patented imposters. This medium-sized tree has the absolute perfect open spreading horizontal form. Not too open, not too dense, not too large but not too shrimpy. Medium fruit display. Dark red, 3/4" round fruit. Virtually scab-immune and disease free. Z4. **ME Grown.**



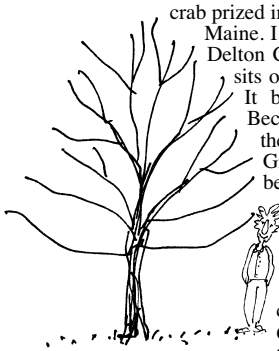
4656 Liset, $19.00

Louisa 15x15' Martha's Vineyard, MA, 1962. Introduced by Polly Hill and named for her daughter. Umbrella-shaped weeping form. Branches arch very slightly and then hang loosely to the ground and sway in the breeze almost like a weeping willow. Rose-colored buds open to cheerful true pink flowers. Not at all garish. Small cute two-toned long-stemmed fruit, lemon-gold with a small rose blush. Dark green foliage. Father John Fiala in his classic *Flowering Crabapples* calls it "one of the newer weepers that should be far better known and grown. An outstanding crabapple." Disease resistant. Z4. **ME Grown.**



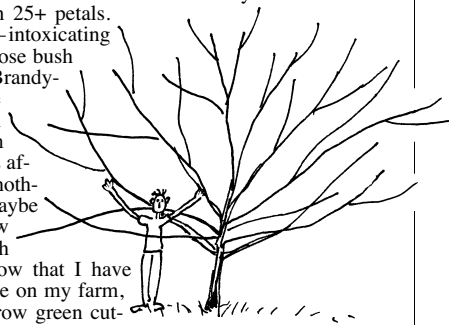
4659 Louisa, $21.00

McDonald 15x15' Unknown parentage. Burkettville, ME. A large-fruited crab prized in the Burkettville (Appleton) midcoast area of Maine. I learned about McDonald from Fedco grower Delton Curtis. The medium-small heavy-bearing tree sits on a knoll just behind his in-laws' farmhouse. It blooms pink and white. As Delton's wife Becky tells it, shortly after her folks purchased the place in 1959, "an elderly neighbor Mrs. Grinell approached them and stated she had been gathering fruit from a crabapple tree on their property for years and to her knowledge it was the only McDonald crabapple tree around. Mrs. Grinell eventually moved to Augusta, but would return each year to help harvest the fruit for her famous pickled crabapples and crabapple jelly." Rare! Z4. **ME Grown.**



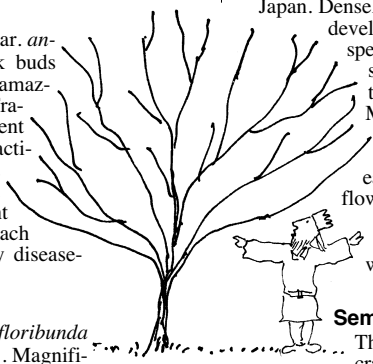
4680 McDonald, $19.00

Prairie Rose 15x15' OPS 825, open-pollinated selection of the native prairie crabapple, *M. ioensis*. University of Ill, c. 1959. A spectacle in bloom both for its visuals and its aromatics. Pink buds followed by 2" light pink flowers, each with 25+ petals. Very strong—delightfully odd—intoxicating fragrance. More like a gigantic rose bush than an apple tree. Better than Brandywine if you can believe it. The only specimen I know is on Mark and Paula Fulford's farm in Monroe, ME, where it flowers after the crabapple season when nothing else is in bloom. Except maybe Prince Georges (see below **#4736**). I haven't seen both bloom in the same spot, but now that I have them growing nearly side by side on my farm, I'll give you report ASAP. Narrow green cutleaf foliage. No fruit really; Mark calls them "small brown bullets." Z4. **ME Grown.**



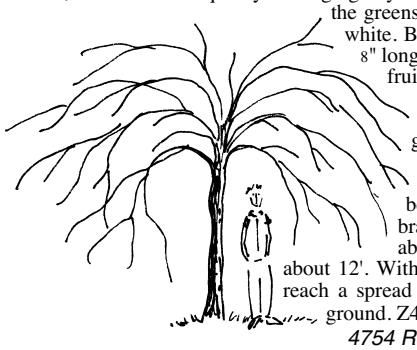
4731 Prairie Rose, $19.00

Prince Georges 15x15' (*M. ioensis* x *M. coronaria* var. *angustifolia*) Arnold Arboretum, MA, 1943. Deep pink buds and double light pink rose-type flowers, each with an amazing 53-61 petals. Heavy spectacular annual bloom. Fragrant flowers look—and smell—like roses, an excellent alternative to Brandywine. Small open tree requires practically no pruning and is suited to even the smallest yard or garden. Blooms reliably every year. Medium-green narrow palmate "maple-like" foliage quite reminiscent of Paperbark Maple. Always the last crab to flower each spring and always worth the wait. No fruit. Virtually disease-free. Z4. **ME Grown.**



4736 Prince Georges, $19.00

Red Jade 12-15' x 15-20' Chance seedling of *M. floribunda* 'Exzellenz Thiel', Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NY, 1953. Magnificent dense fine-branched weeper. The spring combination of yellow-green foliage, pink buds and single white (actually faint pink) blossoms has a magical, almost surreal quality. Changing day after day as more buds open and the greens and pinks merge and soften to white. Beautifully covered with small 3/8" long-stemmed light red—not pink—fruit, born in clusters up to 5 per bunch and annually popular with birds. Glossy vibrant green foliage. Using long stakes and judicious pruning, I have trained my 7-year-old tree to begin weeping at 7'. The arching branches rise to 10' and hang to 5' above the grass. The spread is about 12'. Within the next few years it should reach a spread of 20' and drape nearly to the ground. Z4. **ME Grown.**



4754 Red Jade, $21.00

Training Your Weeping Crab

First summer: Stake the tree and do not prune it at all. Staking keeps the the tree from weeping before reaching the desired height. Tie the tip (central leader) snug to the stake.

Second summer: Decide at what height you want weeping to begin. Continue to train the leader to the stake until it reaches the desired height. Leave some but not all the lower branches.

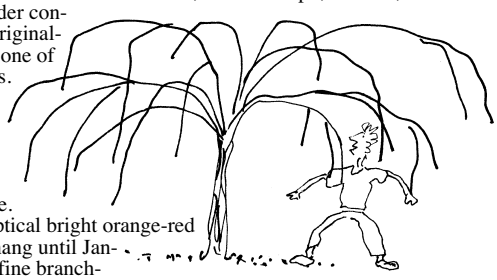
Later years: Once the leader reaches the height to begin weeping, let several branches form and begin to weep. (The nicest weepers I've seen begin weeping at about 6-8' high.) Over 2-3 years, remove all the lower branches. Eventually remove the stake. Continue to remove lower branches as necessary.

Crabapples are really just apples in disguise. They prefer full sun and deep well-drained soils of 5.5-6.5 pH but they are quite forgiving and will thrive in many locations with a little TLC. They don't like to be drowned or starved for water, and they do need to be protected from borers, mice and deer. See page 6. Planting instructions on page 5.

Pruning Crabapples

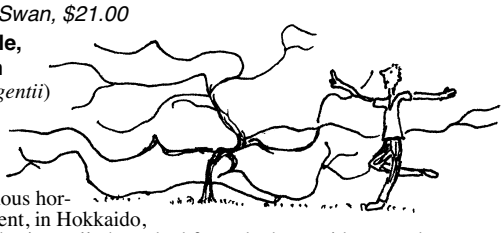
Most crabapples require little or no pruning except when a branch is broken or you feel compelled to shape your tree in one way or another. Allow each tree to assume its own unique form. Weeping crabs however do require pruning and training.

Red Swan 10x14' John Fiala introduction, Falconskeape, Medina, OH. The great crabapple breeder considered Red Swan, originally called Red Snow, one of his best introductions. Wide spreading mop-topped disheveled weeping form. Reddish-pink buds and 1 1/2" light pink flowers turning white. Masses of small elliptical bright orange-red persistent fruit will hang until January. Long graceful fine branches. Annual bloomer. Golden yellow fall foliage. We apologize to those of you who did not receive the trees you ordered for 2006. We have plenty in stock for 2007. Z3. **ME Grown.**



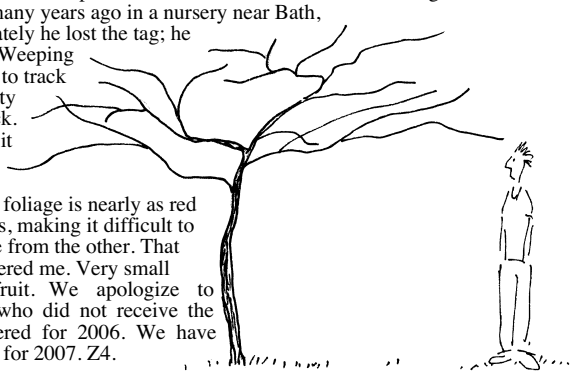
4761 Red Swan, $21.00

Sargent Crabapple, Mt. Auburn strain 10' x 20-30' (*M. sargentii*) Arnold Arboretum, 1892. Grown from seed No. 4681 collected by one of America's most famous horticulturists, CS Sargent, in Hokkaido, Japan. Densely and horizontally branched from the base with no tendency to develop a central leader. Not all Sargents are created equal. A species rather than a variety, many of the Sargents have been started from seed: hence the variability. This one comes from the front entrance of the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA. It is the most spectacular I've ever seen. Barely 8' tall and over 30' wide. What a delightful jumble of twists and curves—like dozen connected pretzels all trying to out-pretzel each other. Pink buds and profuse pure-white fragrant single flowers that seem to bloom forever. Birds are crazy about its very small dark red-purple persistent fruit. Whether in bloom or not, this is an amazing tree. Disease resistant. Scionwood obtained with permission from Mt. Auburn Cemetery. Z4. **ME Grown.**



4783 Sargent, Mt Auburn, $19.00

Semi-Weeping Red 10-12' x 20' Unknown parentage and origin. This is a fantastic tree. It doesn't weep but rather it snakes and crawls and reaches out across the yard, the undulating branches barely rising above a horizontal plane. After nine years, my tree is only about six feet tall. I pass it en route to the barn—often a dozen times a day—and every time I do, I marvel at its shape and color. As beautiful in January as in June. Deep rich glowing electric-red foliage opens just before the plums bloom in mid-May. The half-open dark red buds dangle in clusters below the leaves like the decorative fringe on the rim of a holiday sombrero. The fruit is red, the leaf petioles are red, the whole tree is red. Roger Luce discovered it many years ago in a nursery near Bath, ME. Unfortunately he lost the tag; he called it Semi-Weeping Red. I've tried to track down its identity but with no luck. Roger thought it may have never caught on because the foliage is nearly as red as the blossoms, making it difficult to distinguish one from the other. That has never bothered me. Very small insignificant fruit. We apologize to those of you who did not receive the trees you ordered for 2006. We have plenty in stock for 2007. Z4. **ME Grown.**



4797 Semi-weeping Red, $21.00

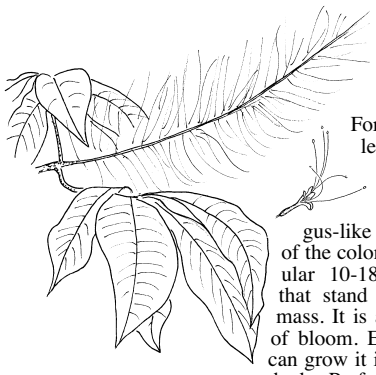
ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Woody Ornamental Shrubs

Although many of these shrubs are multi-use plants, all are cultivated primarily for their flowers, fragrance, foliage or interesting form. They range from diminutive and delicate to large and breathtaking. Some are old standards and some are relatively unknown. We plant them to reduce the amount of lawn we feel compelled to mow, while increasing the beauty and wildlife cover that surrounds us. It's great to see that lawn shrinking a bit more every year!

Abeliophyllum distichum **White Forsythia** 4x4' Vigorous multistemmed informal rounded shrub with clusters of white spicy-scented forsythia-like flowers in very early spring. I would say its form is somewhere in between a shrub and a ground cover: mostly waist high or so, but decidedly low-growing in places. Makes a good companion for true forsythia, and a more reliable bloomer in the North than true forsythia. Smooth-edged lime-green foliage. Prefers sunny well-drained locations, but will tolerate most soils. Cut back to 6-12" every 3-4 years. Native to Korea. Z4. (6-18" transplants)

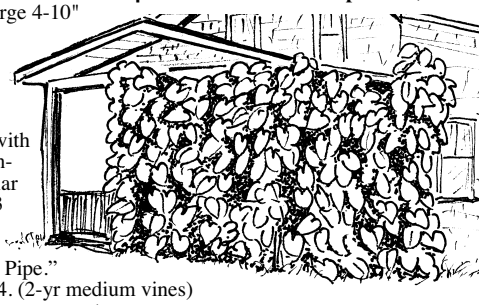
4930 White Forsythia, $9.00



Aesculus parviflora **Bottlebrush Buckeye** 10-12' x 15' Irregular large wide multistemmed suckering shrub with beautiful horse chestnut-like foliage and jaw-dropping midsummer flowers. Forms absolutely magnificent multi-level colonies. The medium to dark green foliage turns yellow-green in fall and is always disease-free. In early summer green asparagus-like spears appear across the surface of the colony and then open up into spectacular 10-18" plume-like feathery panicles that stand upright above the foliage in a mass. It is a major show-stopper in and out of bloom. Excellent as a border plant. You can grow it in the sun but it will thrive in the shade. Prefers well-drained acid soil. Native to SE North America. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

4936 Bottlebrush Buckeye, $12.00

Aristolochia durior **Dutchman's Pipe** 20-30' Also called **Pipe Vine**, a vigorous climber with large 4-10" heart-shaped dark green leaves. Can cover screened porch or trellis in 2-3 seasons. Sun or shade, thrives in shade. Likes well-drained soil with adequate moisture. Inconspicuous U-shaped tubular flowers in clusters of 1-3 with white base, mahogany lobes which look like a "Dutchman's Pipe." Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (2-yr medium vines)



4954 Dutchman's Pipe, $11.00

Aronia arbutifolia **'Brilliantissima' Red Chokeberry** 6-10' x 3-5' In his book *Best of the Hardiest,* John Sabuco calls red chokeberry "one of our finest native landscape shrubs." Upright multistemmed form. Dense clusters of small but showy white flowers with red stamens. Dark green foliage turns absolutely spectacular crimson in the fall. In huge demand as *the* best alternative to the invasive burning bush. Abundant persistent glossy bright red fruit birds will love. Spreads by suckers. Beautiful in masses, plantings and borders. Transplants easily. Adapted to many soils, wet or dry, but prefers moist and well-drained. Sun or partial shade. Can be trained into a small tree. Native eastern U.S. Z4. (6-18" transplants)

4961 Red Chokeberry, $9.00

A. melanocarpa **Black Chokeberry** 4-6' x same. Compact rounded shrub suckers profusely to form colonies. Showy white blooms in late spring. Glossy green foliage all summer turns brilliant wine-red in fall. Attractive black berries may be palatable enough for fresh eating, but probably more suited to juice, jelly or our feathered friends. Its black fruit and glossy foliage distinguish *A. melanocarpa* from *A. arbutifolia*. Not particularly picky about where it grows. Adaptable to wet or dry areas, sun or partial shade. Disease and insect free. Native eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (6-18" transplants)

4965 Black Chokeberry, $9.00

Pruning Directions for Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Berries

Proper pruning enhances the beauty and usefulness of flowering shrubs and trees. Trim shrubs for large blooms, fine foliage and good form.

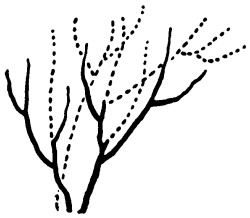
Why Pruning Is Necessary

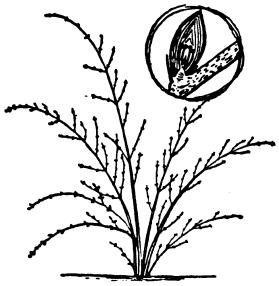
1. Most shrubs need a few of the older canes cut off at the ground line each year to encourage the growth of new young canes. This is a natural rejuvenation procedure replacing old canes with new.
2. Pruning produces larger and better blooms as the vitality of the plant goes to the blossoms, rather than to supporting heavy wood growth.
3. Remove poorly shaped longer branches to retain the natural shape of the shrub.
4. Remove broken, dead or diseased branches for health, neatness and vigor.
5. Shrubs with unusual bark coloring should have the older canes removed, as the full natural coloring is displayed best in the young new growth.
6. Certain varieties of shrubs sucker from the roots. Remove these suckers unless you want the shrub to spread and form colonies.

Pruning shrubs is primarily thinning out older undesirable canes. Plants such as hydrangeas, altheas, tea roses, tamarix and dogwoods should have all canes pruned back to produce larger flowers or more brightly colored canes.

The nature of growth of a tree may be controlled by pruning. If you desire a tall tree with a high crown, prune the lateral branches from the trunk and prevent formation of low crotches. For a low, stocky tree used in screens and windbreaks, cut back the top shoots to force side growth.

Remove oldest wood and center branches (a few each year).





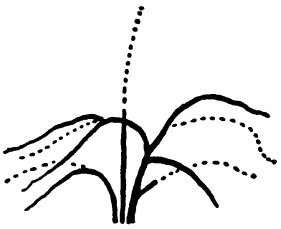
Prune Late-Flowering Shrubs Early

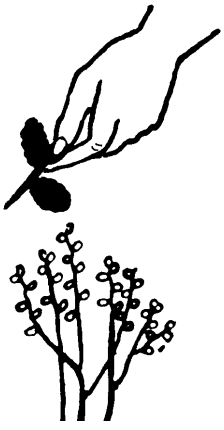
Midsummer-flowering shrubs form flower buds on new wood. For maximum bloom, prune them in early spring before the new wood begins to grow.

Prune Early-Flowering Shrubs Later

Spring-flowering shrubs form flower buds in the summer after they are finished blooming. For maximum bloom the following year, prune them immediately after their bloom is over.

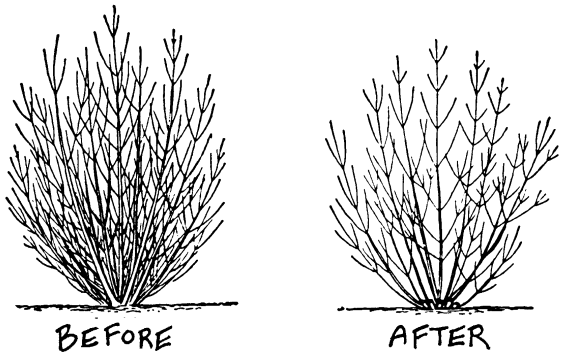
Retain natural arching habit by pruning branches after flowering. Otherwise new growth starts at the tips of flowering branches and the shrub gets top-heavy.





Pinch off the growing tips and remove flowers as soon as faded.

Prune For Healthy Growth

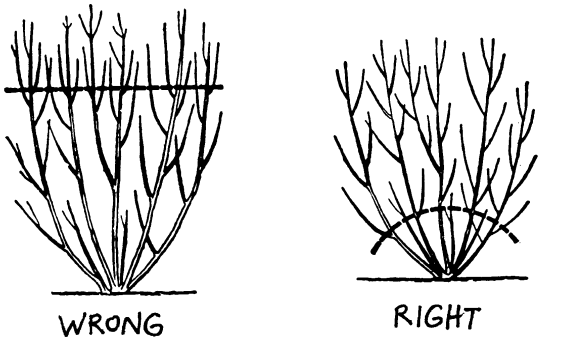


Before

Your shrubs will tell you when they need thinning. Shrubs such as Honeysuckle send up too many canes for best growth. Cut off a few of the oldest and least vigorous branches close to the ground. Do not injure bark on canes to be saved.

After

Note the difference thinning of canes makes. Air and light can now penetrate. Fewer canes promote vigor, health and vitality. Plants will produce more and larger blossoms. Slow growing, less vigorous shrubs seldom need thinning out.



Prune For Symmetry and Appearance

Cutting back tops of shrubs straight across is a common error. This encourages top-growth and the lower part of the shrub, with no foliage near the base, becomes woody and unsightly. Growth stays low and bushy when properly pruned.

Proper pruning promotes growth at the base of the shrub. Larger flowers on hydrangeas, altheas, hybrid tea roses, tamarix and butterfly bush are obtained by severe pruning. Colorful branches and twigs on dogwoods develop on new stems.

What To Do with Over-Grown Shrubs

Overgrown shrubs with little foliage near the base may be rejuvenated by cutting down each cane at the ground line in early March. All overgrown shrubs should be pruned thusly, even though early blooms may be sacrificed.

Shrubs cut back for rejuvenation will send forth new shoots in the late spring. This growth will be bushy with foliage clear to the ground. Pinch off tops of growth when desired height is attained. It usually takes two to three years to rejuvenate shrubs and hedges completely.

***Buddleia* Butterfly Bush** Colorful attractive arching shrub with 4-6" panicles of fragrant flowers in midsummer that are guaranteed to attract zillions of butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. In New England treat it as an herbaceous perennial. Cut it to the ground in early spring—or just let it die back—and it will bloom again on new wood come summer. Reblooms throughout the summer if spent flowers are cut. Recommended for shrub or perennial borders. Grey-green foliage. Easy to transplant. Very adaptable but begs for full sun. Can become a nuisance weed in southern states, but that shouldn't ever be a problem up here. The renowned plantsman Michael Dirr is a big fan of Buddleia. Once again this year we are offering two of his introductions. Usually considered to be a Zone 5 plant though it may do well in Zone 4. (well-rooted crowns)

***B.* davidii 'Bicolor' Butterfly Bush** 6-8' x same. Selection of Honeycomb. Michael Dirr intro. Each two-toned panicle includes both butterscotch yellow and lavender flowers. Compact habit. **ME Grown.**

4990 Bicolor Butterfly Bush, $10.00

***B. x weyeriana* 'Honeycomb' Butterfly Bush** 4-6' x same. Michael Dirr intro. Creamy-yellow buds followed by yellow flowers, each with a deep orange eye. Upright spreading habit. **ME Grown.**

4995 Honeycomb Butterfly Bush, $10.00

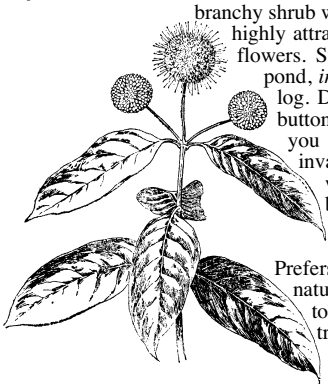
***B. d.* 'Potter's Purple' Butterfly Bush** 6-8' x same. Large 8" purple lightly fragrant flower panicles. Lance-shaped dark green foliage with silvery underside. **ME Grown.**

5007 Potter's Purple Butterfly Bush, $10.00

***Celastrus scandens* American Bittersweet** or **False Bittersweet** 20' or more. A highly ornamental native vine. The insignificant flower display in spring is followed by beautiful grape-like clusters of small red-orange-yellow berries for holiday wreaths and other dried flower arrangements. Also quite beautiful right on the vine. (This is *not* the invasive Asian Bittersweet—*C. orbiculatus*—which you should never grow!) Deep glossy summer foliage turns yellow-green in fall. Very vigorous climbing twining habit, will grow in nearly any soils although it does not like the driest sites. Suitable for covering porches, stone walls, rough hillsides, old cars and unsightly outbuildings. Prefers full sun. Male and female required for fruit. These are unsexed vines. Although some plants may have both male and female flowers, plant two or three plants to ensure fruit. Native eastern North America. Z3. (2 yr. medium plants)

5038 American Bittersweet, $9.00

***Cephalanthus occidentalis* Buttonbush** 6-10' x 8' Loose rounded branchy shrub with bright green foliage and masses of highly attractive unusual spherical fragrant white flowers. Suitable for the garden, the stream or pond, *in* the pond, or even on an old floating log. Don't be surprised if you come across buttonbush growing *in* the river next time you head out in the canoe. But this is no invasive plant. Flowers appear for 4-6 weeks in summer, a magnet for honey bees. They also make interesting dried flowers. The seeds (nutlets) make good fodder for the ducks in the fall. Prefers moist soils! Recommended for naturalizing. Native to eastern U.S., west to New Mexico. Z4. **ME Grown.** (24-36" transplants)

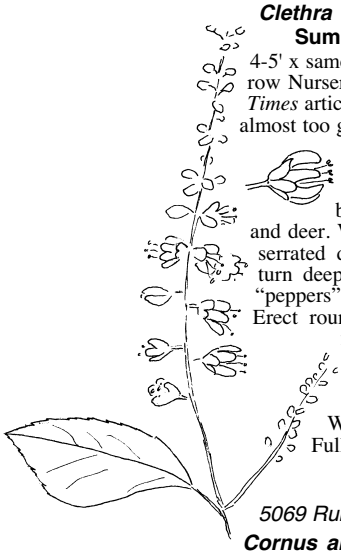


5049 Buttonbush, $10.00

Chaenomeles lagenaria 'Rubra' **Red Flowering Quince** 4-6' x same. A multistemmed wide vase-shaped somewhat arching rounded shrub that I've had growing by the path up from the driveway for 20 years now. Looks good all season. The long bloom time is one of the brighter signs of spring. Prolific and showy 5-petaled crimson red flowers appear just before the foliage. The leaves are shiny dark green and slightly leathery, reminiscent of holly. Regularly sends up more stems but never seems to spread that much. The medium-sized fruit is edible but bitter. (This is not the edible Quince, *Cydonia oblonga,* of Owl and Pussycat fame.) However, it is valued for its culinary and medicinal qualities in east Asia. Average acid soil. Sun to partial shade. You might get better fruiting in full sun. Native to east Asia. Said to be Zone 5 but mine has done well in Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5060 Red Flowering Quince, $11.00

Clethra alnifolia **Clethra 'Ruby Spice', Summersweet** or **Sweet Pepperbush** 4-5' x same. Sport of 'Pink Spires', Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden, CT, 1992. A *New York Times* article called Clethra "a plant that sounds almost too good to be true." Red buds and beautiful spires of heavenly scented deep pink flowers appear on racemes for 6 weeks in midsummer. Bees and butterflies love it but not so rabbits and deer. Whorls of extremely attractive finely serrated distinctly veined dark green foliage turn deep gold in fall. Dangling racemes of "peppers" persist into the next growing season. Erect rounded-oval habit, often suckering to form dense colonies. Very easy to grow. Slow growing. Prefers acid moist well-drained soils. A good shrub to border streams and ponds. Will tolerate salty coastal conditions. Full sun to shade. Pest free. Native from Maine to Florida. Z3. **ME Grown.** (6-24" transplants)

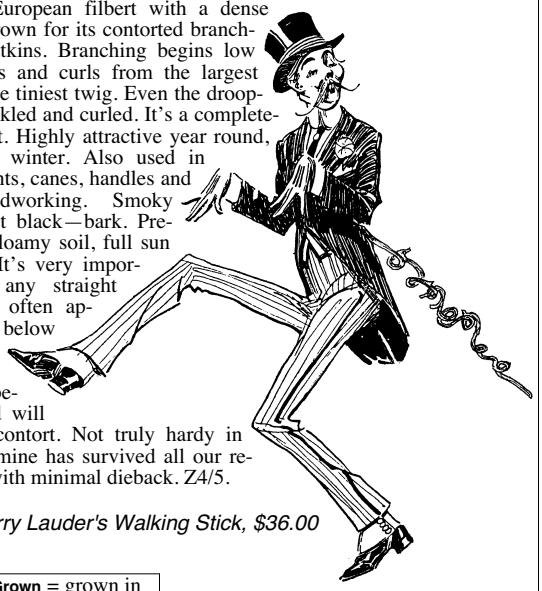


5069 Ruby Spice Summersweet, $10.50

Cornus amomum **Silky Dogwood** 6-10' x same. Rounded rangy multistemmed shrub with attractive purple-red stems which are especially beautiful in winter. Valuable for naturalizing borders, streams and wetlands. Effective in masses or even windbreaks. Medium-fast growing. Yellowish-white flowers in late spring followed by sprigs of blue berries in midsummer that sit above the medium green foliage. Purple fall color. Deer will browse the stems and leaves and traveling songbirds and local fowl will browse the berries. Prefers moist well-drained soils, although it is adaptable even to somewhat poorly drained wet locations. Does not like droughty spots. Sun or partial shade. Easy to transplant. Native eastern U.S. Generally listed as Z5 but probably hardier. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (3-6' transplants)

5086 Silky Dogwood, $9.00

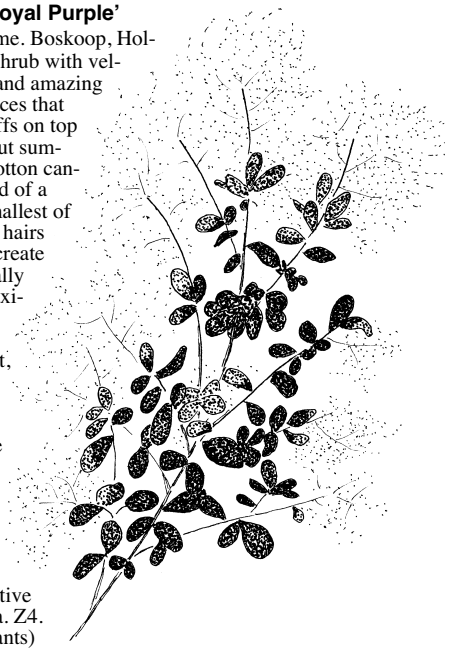
Corylus avellana **'Contorta' Harry Lauder's Walking Stick** 6-12' x 15-20' Discovered in Frocester, Gloucestershire, England, 1863. A non-fruiting grafted European filbert with a dense mounded form, grown for its contorted branches, leaves and catkins. Branching begins low and curves, twists and curls from the largest branch down to the tiniest twig. Even the drooping foliage is wrinkled and curled. It's a completely wonderful sight. Highly attractive year round, but especially in winter. Also used in flower arrangements, canes, handles and ornamental woodworking. Smoky dark grey—almost black—bark. Prefers well-drained loamy soil, full sun to partial shade. It's very important to remove any straight suckers that will often appear at or from below ground level. These shoots would be from below the graft and will never twist and contort. Not truly hardy in Zone 4 although mine has survived all our recent bad winters with minimal dieback. Z4/5. (2-3' grafted trees)



5107 Harry Lauder's Walking Stick, $36.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

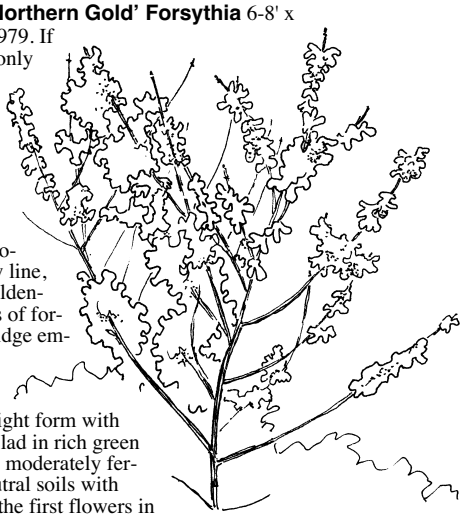
Cotinus coggygria **'Royal Purple' Smokebush** 8-10' x same. Boskoop, Holland. Upright spreading shrub with velvety dark purple foliage and amazing purplish-pink inflorescences that look like large smoke puffs on top of the branches throughout summer. Each one of these cotton candy-like poofs is composed of a web of fine stems, the smallest of which are lined with tiny hairs that reflect the light and create an ethereal effect. It's really quite remarkable. For maximum glow, plant in a sunny location. Often considered a Zone 5 plant, but reliably grows back and flowers each summer in Zone 4. Cut to the ground each fall for more vigorous and more brightly colored growth. Red-burgundy fall color. Adaptable to a wide range of pH and soils although it prefers it well-drained. Disease free. Native southern Europe to China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (6-18" transplants)



5116 Royal Purple Smokebush, $9.50

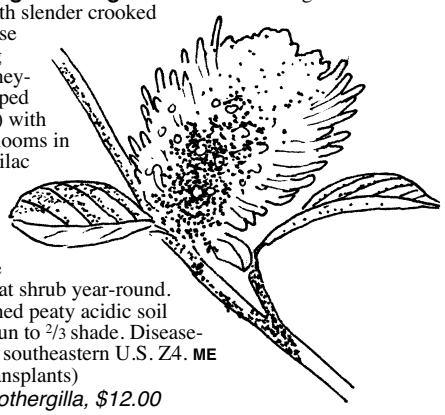
Euonymus alatus **'Compactus' Burning Bush** Due to its inclusion on every invasive species list we've seen, *we no longer offer* Burning Bush. For fall color, we highly recommend Aronia arbutifolia (#**4961**), Aronia melanocarpa (#**4965**) or Fothergilla (#**5157**). All three are excellent natives with fantastic fall color.

Forsythia **x** ***ovata*** **'Northern Gold' Forsythia** 6-8' x 5-7' Ottawa, Canada, 1979. If your forsythia blooms only from the snow-line down, you were duped. You can't trust those cheap-o plants from the the big box store! Northern Gold has not only the outstanding bud hardiness necessary for flower production *above* the snow line, but also outstanding golden-yellow flowers. Masses of forsythia embellish the bridge embankments along the Maine Turnpike. You *too* can have a full bloom every year! Upright form with grey-yellow branches clad in rich green healthy foliage. Prefers moderately fertile, slightly acid to neutral soils with good drainage. One of the first flowers in spring. Bred from *F. ovata*, a hardy dependably blooming Korean species. Z3. (6-18" transplants)



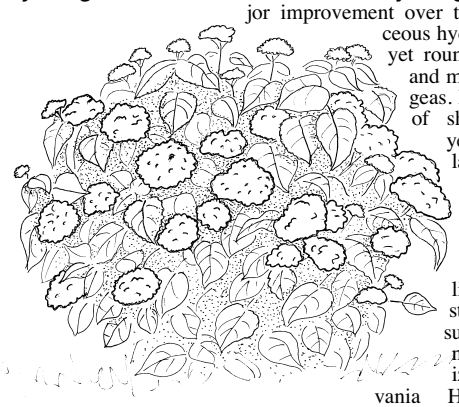
5142 Northern Gold Forsythia, $9.00

Fothergilla major **Large Fothergilla** 6-10' x same. Magnificent rounded multistemmed shrub with slender crooked branches becoming dense with maturity. Amazing small creamy-white honey-scented bottlebrush-shaped flowers (inflorescences) with long showy stamens. Blooms in spring, usually around lilac time. Attractive dark green to blue-green leathery leaves turn brilliant yellow, orange and scarlet, often on the same leaf, in fall. A great shrub year-round. Prefers moist well-drained peaty acidic soil but is very adaptable. Sun to 2/3 shade. Disease- and pest-free. Native to southeastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (8-12" beefy transplants)



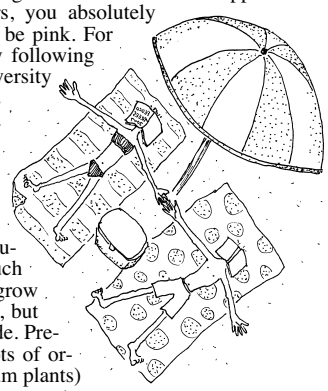
5157 Large Fothergilla, $12.00

***Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle' Hydrangea** 3-5' x same. A major improvement over the old standard herbaceous hydrangea. A very upright yet rounded shrub, the earliest and most erect of the hydrangeas. Large clusters (up to 1') of showy white to faint-yellow flowers bloom in late June till September. Big 5-6" almost heart-shaped foliage. Grows fast, suckers freely, thrives in shade. Cut to the ground and fertilize lightly in late winter for stunning bloom next summer. Suited to perennial borders and naturalized gardens. A Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Gold Medal Plant Award winner. Species native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1yr #1 plants)



5168 Annabelle Hydrangea, $12.00

***H. macrophylla* 'Endless Summer' Hydrangea** 3-5' x same. Bailey Nursery Introduction, St. Paul, MN, 2004. This is the blue flowering hydrangea that is causing all the hoop-la in the gardening world. With good reason. Most Bigleaf Hydrangeas (*H. macrophylla*) bloom only on old wood. After a typical Maine winter you get dead flower buds and no flowers. 'Endless Summer' blooms on old and new wood. Even if the plant dies to the ground, you'll get those large showy 8" mop-head blooms that summer. Please note, however, that some gardeners have been disappointed with this plant. To ensure blue flowers, you absolutely must have acidic soil. Otherwise they'll be pink. For those who need to acidify their soil, try following Henry Homeyer's advice from the University of New Hampshire: "Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the rootball. Discard half the soil, and mix the remaining soil with an equal quantity of moist peat moss. Peat moss is naturally acidic, and will also help to prevent wilting of the leaves on hot days.…[Do not apply any] fertilizer, particularly soluble chemical fertilizers.…Adding too much nitrogen…means that your plant will grow rapidly, and have nice dark green leaves, but produce few flowers." Sun or partial shade. Prefers deep well-drained acid soils with lots of organic matter. Native to Japan. Z4. (medium plants)

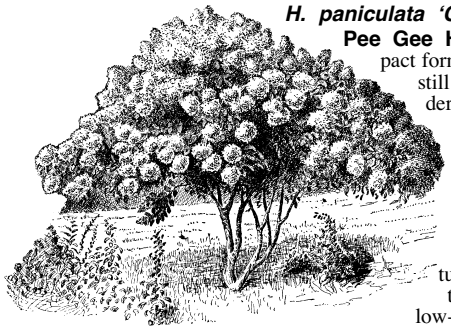


5172 Endless Summer Hydrangea, $19.00

***H. m.* 'Masja' Bigleaf Hydrangea** 3-4' x same. One of the treats of this past summer was seeing 100 Masja Hydrangeas blooming in Delton's nursery. He and Becky Curtis grow several thousand fruit trees for Fedco every year. They have also been experienting with an assortment of ornamentals. One of them is Masja. The mophead-type blooms ranged in color from multiple silvery shades of purples to blues to reds. What a vision. Might make a very presentable hedge or driveway border. Color will be bluer with lower soil pH (acidic) and redder with higher soil pH. Flowers from buds formed during the previous summer, so prune immediately after flowering. Dark green foliage. Moist well-drained soil. Sun or partial shade. May die back to the ground inland from the coast or north of Portland though it has done well in our trials in Zone 4. Recommended for warmer spots. Native of Japan. Z4/5. (8-12" transplants)

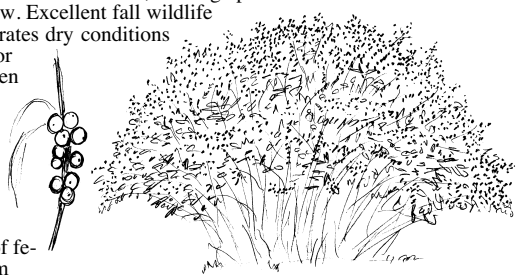
5175 Masja Hydrangea, $12.00

***H. paniculata 'Compacta'* Compact Pee Gee Hydrangea** 6x6' Compact form of Pee Gee Hydrangea still possessing all the wonderful qualities of the famous woody shrub but only about half the size. Arching branches and upright very showy large conical double white flower-clusters that bloom July–August, turning pink-bronze in autumn. Small serrated yellow-green leaves illuminated with a fine yellow edge. Prefers good loamy moist well-drained soil in sun or partial shade. Difficult to kill; urban tolerant. Species native to North and South America and eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-30" transplants)



5178 Compact Pee Gee Hydrangea, $12.00

***Ilex verticillata* Winterberry** A staple of the Maine landscape. Deciduous suckering holly with clusters of upright stems. Lustrous deep green leaves retain their color long after they're cut for decoration. Richly foliated, but open enough to display its interesting branching structure. Best known for profusions of bright red 3/8" berries which stand out after the leaves have fallen and keep their color all winter, looking spectacular against the snow. Excellent fall wildlife forage plant. Tolerates dry conditions but prefers moist or wet acidic soil, even standing water. Sun or partial shade. No serious pests or diseases. Male and female plants required for fruit. Plant males within 30' of females. Native from midwestern to eastern U.S. Z4.



***I.v.* 'Red Sprite'** 3-5' x 4-8' Female plant. USDA introduction. Smaller plant than the straight species with an attractive low loose rounded form. Winner of the 1998 Cary Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. 'Jim Dandy' male required for fruit. **ME Grown.** (6-12" beefy plants)

5189 Red Sprite Winterberry, $10.00

***I.v.* 'Jim Dandy'** 3-6' x 4-5' Male selection to pollinate 'Red Sprite' winterberry. One will pollinate several females. **ME Grown.** (12-18" beefy plants)

5193 Male Jim Dandy Winterberry, $10.00

***I.v.* 'Winter Red'** 9x8' Female plant. Larger than 'Red Sprite'. Darker green foliage. Winner of the 1995 Styer Award. 'Southern Gentleman' male required for fruit. **ME Grown.** (6-12" beefy plants)

5197 Winter Red Winterberry, $10.00

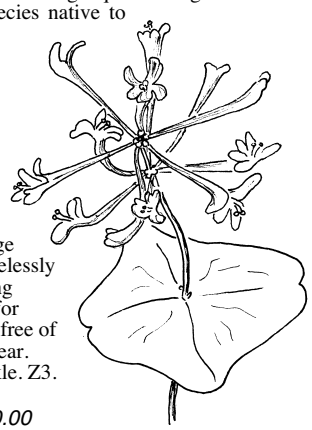
***I.v.* 'Southern Gentleman'** 6x6' Male selection to pollinate 'Winter Red' winterberry. Don't be deceived by the name—it's hardy. One will pollinate several females. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5201 Southern Gentleman Winterberry, $10.00

***Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet' Virginia Sweetspire** 3-5' x 5-6'. Swarthmore College, PA. Spreading shrub with an erect clustered branching habit. Fragrant white flowers on upright racemes up to 6" long in early summer. Bright green foliage, brilliant reddish-purple fall color. Will form colonies. Henry's Garnet has both superior flowers and fall color. Winner of the prestigious Styer award and the 1999 Michigan Growers' Choice award. Recommended for moist or wet areas although quite drought tolerant as well. Sun or shade, pH adaptable. Species native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe 4. (6-12" transplants)

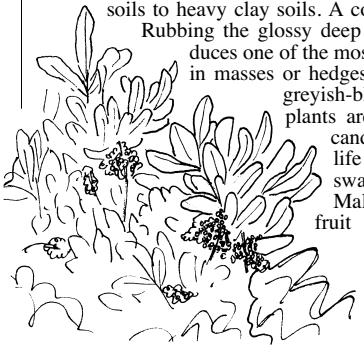
5204 Henry's Garnet Sweetspire, $9.00

***Lonicera* x *brownii* Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle** 10-20' (*L. sempervirens* x *L. hirsuta*) Tall climbing honeysuckle developed by FL Skinner in Manitoba. Jazzy whimsical clusters of 1 1/2" scarlet-orange tubular flowers bloom profusely and tirelessly from early summer into late fall. Striking blue-green foliage on red stems. Great for fence or arbor. Easy to grow; generally free of insects and diseases. Flowers the first year. Considered the hardiest vine honeysuckle. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-yr medium plants)

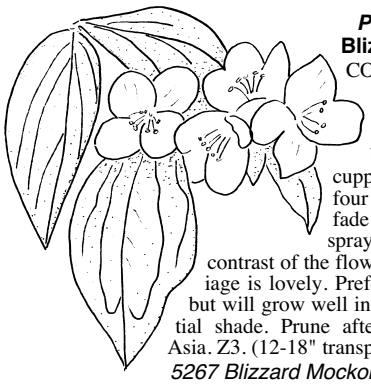


5222 Dropmore Scarlet, $10.00

***Myrica pensylvanica* Bayberry** 5-9' Rounded deciduous semi-evergreen very salt-tolerant shrub thrives in full sun to partial shade, sandy poor soils to heavy clay soils. A common sight on Maine's coastal islands. Rubbing the glossy deep green leaves between your fingers produces one of the most delicious smells in the world. Excellent in masses or hedges, tends to sucker. Fixes nitrogen. Small greyish-blue waxy berries produced on female plants are highly aromatic, historically used for candle making. Plants feed numerous wildlife species and are especially craved by swallows. Tends toward being dioecious. Male and female plants required for good fruit development. We're offering unsexed plants. Native to eastern U.S. Z2/3. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)



5240 Bayberry, $10.00



Philadelphus lewisii **Blizzard Mockorange** 4-5' x 3' COPF intro, Alberta, Canada. Medium-sized coarse loosely upright arching fragrantly blooming shrub. A "blizzard" of fragrant beautiful pure-white slightly cupped 4-petaled blossoms for up to four weeks in late spring, after lilacs fade. Each flower is accented by a spray of golden yellow anthers. The contrast of the flowers and deep dark blue-green foliage is lovely. Prefers moist rich well-drained soils, but will grow well in most conditions. Full sun to partial shade. Prune after flowering. Native to western Asia. Z3. (12-18" transplants)

5267 Blizzard Mockorange, $10.00

Potentilla fruticosa **Potentilla** Also called **Shrubby Cinquefoil** or **Widdy**. A compact rounded to broadly rounded bushy shrub with showy five-petaled rose-like flowers. Flowers all summer long, beginning the first year. Very small attractive grey-green compound leaves. Excellent landscape plant for shrub borders, low hedges, rock walls and steps. Loved by bees. Full sun or partial shade. Best in fertile moist well-drained soil, but tolerates poor dry soil. Said to need sweating before planting to break dormancy, but I've been planting them without any special treatment for years and have never had a failure. Unbelievably hardy. Native to Northern Hemisphere. Z2.

P. f. **'Jackmanii' Jackman's** 3-4' x same. Showy deep yellow 1½" blooms. Dark green foliage. One of the larger varieties. **ME Grown.** (9-16" transplants)

5302 Jackman's Potentilla, $10.00

P. f. **'Primrose Beauty'** 3x3' Faint yellow flowers with a slightly deeper yellow center and yellow stamens. From a distance the color appears creamy. This is a good choice if white is too white and the yellow cultivars are too garish. In groupings, it compliments white potentillas quite nicely and helps tame the "gold" cultivars. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5314 Primrose Beauty Potentilla, $10.00

P. f. **'Princess'** 2½' x same. Bressingham Gardens introduction. Delicate pink flowers each with a white reverse. Small rounded shrub. Like most pink Potentillas, Princess performs best in the north. If you're south of the Portsmouth bridge expect it to fade in the summer heat. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5316 Princess Potentilla, $10.00

P. f. **'Snowbird'** 2½-3' x 2-3' White flowers. Upright compact form and glossy green foliage. Unlike most Potentillas, most of Snowbird's blossoms will be doubles after the first few years. (9-18" beefy plants)

5317 Snowbird Potentilla, $10.00

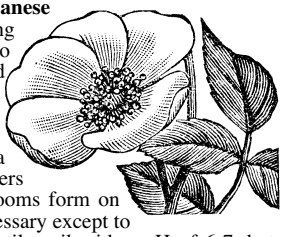
Prunus pumila **var. *depressa* 'Catskill' Ground Sand Cherry** 2'x15' USDA introduction. Low growing "shrub" with, long undulating runners that will creep and wind their way through your garden or across your rock wall. I periodically train the runners on mine by tucking them behind a rock or the stem of a neighboring plant. This is a delightful plant all season long. The small delicate pinkish-white flowers in spring are just an added bonus. The long slender deep green "willow-like" foliage stands erect and turns spectacular orange-red in fall. Edible fruits. Full sun to light shade. Tolerates poor soils. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted plants)

5320 Ground Sand Cherry, $10.00

ROSES.

Rosa **Rose** Exceedingly hardy, vigorous, disease- and pest-resistant, and significantly easier to grow than most named varieties, these roses need not be pampered; all are rugged and hard to kill, forming beautiful hedges. Recommended as a solution for those who want roses but are tired of struggling with tender hybrid tea roses, or who associate roses with pests, poisons, disease and winterkill.

We focus on hardiness and fragrance in our rose selections. If the description says very fragrant, it is! Each year we offer a different selection of the best varieties available. If your favorite is not on the list this year, we may be offering it in 2008. All roses are stocky well-rooted plants that we cut back to about 6" to encourage optimal growth and bloom. (stocky well-rooted plants)



R. rugosa 4-6' x same. Also called **Japanese Rose** or **Beach Rose**. Vigorous spreading shrub. Flowers range from deep pink to white. Red hips up to 1" for jams, teas, and fresh eating right off the bush. Flowers used in traditional Chinese medicine to regulate *qi* and promote blood circulation. The dark green wrinkled "rugose" leaves form a backdrop for the highly fragrant single flowers and the large edible hips which follow. Blooms form on both old and new wood, so pruning is unnecessary except to control size. Likes full sun, well-drained fertile soil with a pH of 6-7, but will grow in depleted soil and even sand. Tolerates salt, pollution, and drought; practically care-free. Native to China and Japan, and a common sight all along the New England coast. Z2. **ME Grown.**

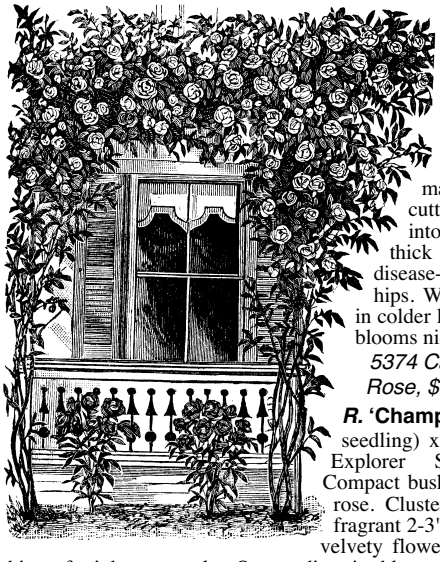
5350 Rosa rugosa, bundle of 3, $16.50

R. r. **'Alba' White Rugosa** 6x6' Large spreading shrub will form colonies along the bank, the seashore or even across your lawn. Pink buds and large 2-3" pure white single flowers with cream-colored stamens. Fragrant, recurrent bloomer. Large orange hips. Orange and scarlet fall foliage. Incredibly rugged; tolerates clay, muck, sand and salt. Disease resistant.

5359 White Rugosa Rose, $10.50

R. **'Blanc Double de Coubert'** 5x4' *R. rugosa* x 'Sombreuil'. Cochet-Cochet, France, 1892. The best of the double whites with its recurrent blooms with lush fragrance. Some doubles are fluffy, but Blanc Double's large (2½-3") blossoms are creamy and substantial, almost as if they were carved out of snow white ivory. Begins blooming in June and continues all summer. Infrequent hips. Attractive dark shiny green foliage. Good fall color. Healthy, open, vigorous shrub. Z3.

5369 Blanc Double de Coubert Rose, $10.50



***R. 'BUCbi'* Carefree Beauty** 3x3' Griffin Buck, U.S., 1978. Small clusters of lightly fragrant rich coral-pink loosely double 2-4" blooms. 15-24 petals. Long stems make it excellent for cutting. Blooms all summer into fall. Shrub form with thick deep olive-green disease-resistant foliage. Orange hips. Will die back to the crown in colder locations, but recovers and blooms nicely the next season. Z4.

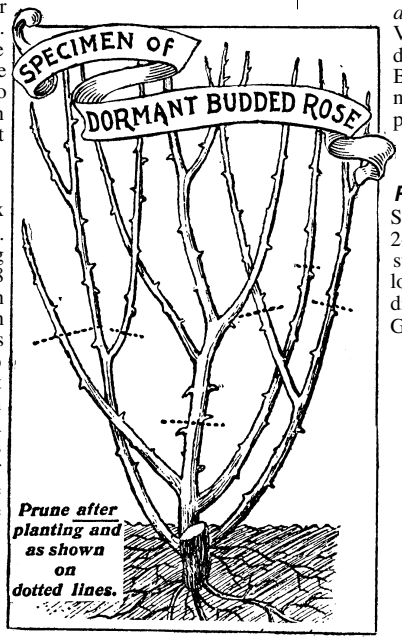
5374 Carefree Beauty Rose, $10.50

***R.* 'Champlain'** 3x3' [(*R. kordesii* x seedling) x (Red Dawn x Suzanne)] Explorer Series, Canada, 1982. Compact bushy disease-free shrub-type rose. Clusters of semi-double lightly fragrant 2-3" intense nearly perfect red velvety flowers with only the slightest hint of pink or purple. Outstanding in bloom. Small center of yellow stamens. Slightly wrinkled petals but never frilly. Will turn somewhat purply as they fade. Flowers appear in early July in central Maine and continue until hard frost. Named for the explorer Samuel de Champlain who is said to be the first European to cultivate roses in North America. May die back in Zone 3 but will recover nicely. Certainly hardy to Zone 4.

5389 Champlain Rose, $10.50

***R.* 'Henry Kelsey'** 6-7' (*R. kordesii* hybrid x seedling) Explorer Series, Ottawa, 1984. Hardy climbing—or, more accurately, long caned—variety. Velvety-red semi-double (28 petals) 3" blooms with brilliant golden stamens. Similar to 'Champlain' although slightly larger and a slightly deeper red. Fades to deep rosy pink. Repeat bloomer and said to have a spicy fragrance, although I don't find it especially fragrant. Shiny deep bluish-green foliage. Tie up the long arching canes to a trellis or arbor, or let them reach low across the garden. Branches can be left to overwinter with minimal (if any) winter damage. Mine survived -30˚ with no problem. Disease resistant. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5439 Henry Kelsey Rose, $10.50



***R.* 'Morden Blush'** 3x3' [(Prairie Princess x Morden Amorette) x (Prairie Princess x (White Bouquet x (*R. arkansana* x Assiniboine)))] Parkland Series, Manitoba, Canada, 1988. Pointed ivory buds followed by a profusion of very double sweetly fragrant small creamy-ivory flowers blushed pink in the center. Blooms from early summer until frost. Low-growing form with glossy green foliage. Red-orange hips. Although Morden Blush looks something like a hybrid tea, don't be fooled, it's hardy to Zone 3 or even Z2. **ME Grown.**

5488 Morden Blush Rose, $10.50

Roses prefer full sun (at least 4-6 hrs per day) and a pH of 6.0-7.0. Space them 4-6' apart. They will do well in most well-drained soils with a good amount of organic matter. In locations with poor drainage, add gravel at the bottom of the planting hole, or build in drainage. Pick a site with good air drainage, but avoid sites with cold northwest winds. Avoid competition with tree roots.

Plant roses as early as soil can be worked. Most roses' roots don't spread beyond the original hole, so dig a bushel-basket sized hole, as deep as 2' or more. We recommend a bale of rotten hay in the bottom of the planting hole. Mix soil with well-rotted manure and compost in liberal quantities. Add a coffee-can full of rock phosphate or bone meal.

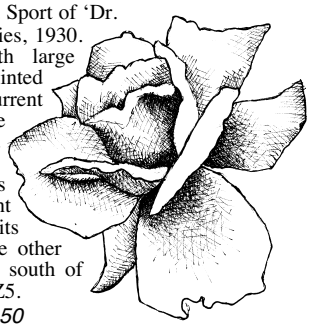
Soak in water overnight or up to three days before planting. Prior to planting, prune roses back to 3 canes, 4-5" tall. Plant them 1" below the level they were in the nursery. Add water as you fill in the hole to puddle it in. Mound soil around branches to prevent them from drying out, and to encourage buds to sprout. As the buds open, pull back the soil to the correct level.

Shrub roses and climbers will require little pruning in later years. Remove dead or broken branches, and periodically cut out the oldest wood. Keep them well mulched to retain moisture and reduce weeds. Add 2 shovels full of composted manure to each crown late in the fall. For more information see *Growing Old Fashioned Hardy Roses Organically* by Suzanne Verrier in the book section of our Seed Catalog.

***R.* 'Morden Sunrise'** 3x3' Sunsprite x unnamed seedling. Parkland Series, Manitoba, Canada, 2000. Yellow-orange buds open to semi-double multi-colored flowers, each one a deep rich yellow in the center fading into orange and then into pink at the blossom edge. This is a rose on fire. The colors are strong and vibrant. If you like yellow and orange, you will not be disappointed at all. As the fragrant flowers mature they fade to a creamy yellow white. The low-growing shrub blooms all summer on canes that turn reddish brown in winter. Resistant to blackspot. Z3.

5493 Morden Sunrise Rose, $10.50

***R.* 'New Dawn'** 10-15' *R. wichuriana*. Sport of 'Dr. W. Van Fleet'. Somerset Rose Nurseries, 1930. Vigorous bushy climbing rose with large wonderfully fragrant light pink long-pointed loosely double flowers. Recurrent blooming. Glossy green foliage. We joyfully offer this, *the* standard spectacular climbing rose despite its dubious distinction of being the world's first patented plant. (Yes, it was plant patent #1.) There's a bit of irony in its name, I suppose. Not as hardy as the other roses we sell, though should do well south of Portland, in town and in coastal areas. Z5.



5495 New Dawn Rose, $10.50

***R.* 'Therese Bugnet'** 6x4' [(*R. acicularis* x *R. kamtchatica*) x (*R. amblyotis* x *R. rugosa plena* (x Betty Bland)] Alberta, Canada, 1950. Vigorous upright vase-shaped plant. Extremely fragrant, large 3-4" double, soft lilac-pink flowers that have an informal "old rose" look. Blooms in late spring and fall with some repeats all summer. Long narrow grey-green foliage turns red in fall. Red canes look particularly beautiful in the snow. Disease resistant. Fast growing and one of the hardiest of the rugosa types. Z3.

5534 Therese Bugnet Rose, $10.50

***R.* 'William Baffin'** 8-10' L48 [*R. kordesii* Wulff x (Red Dawn x Suzanne)] x open pollinated. Explorer Series, Canada, 1983. Prolific 2-3" semi-double luminous deep pink flowers with bright yellow stamens bloom continuously all summer on upright slightly arching long flexible canes suitable for a tall hedge or arbor. Vigorous and disease resistant. Can be left on trellis all winter in most locations. Glossy foliage. Light fragrance. Small red-orange hips. Z3. **ME Grown.**

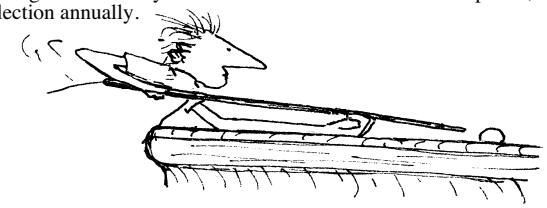
5544 William Baffin Rose, $10.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

***Salix gracilistyla* 'Melanostachys' Black Pussy Willow** 6-10' x same. A very attractive fast-growing plant for wetland situations. Deep purple-black male catkins in early spring, suitable for the dining table or kitchen windowsill. The rather short foliage opens orange and then turns a deep green. Stems assume a rich purple-black color in winter. Very nice dark colors all year. Winner of Royal Horticulture Society Award of Garden Merit. Prune in summer or fall. Full sun, prefers moist soils, pH adaptable but does not like shallow chalky soils. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (6-12" transplants)

5568 Black Pussy Willow, $9.00

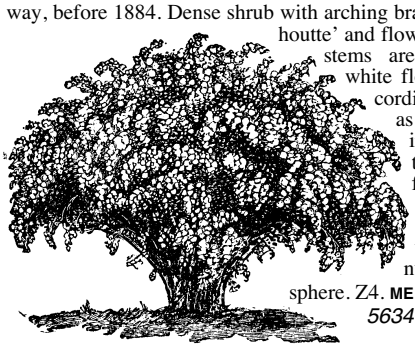
***Spiræa* Spirea** includes nearly 100 species of deciduous shrubs native to the northern hemisphere, all with profuse and often very showy small white, pink or red flowers, arranged in flat or round clusters or in pyramidal spikes. Varying in form and size, spireas are very adaptable, thriving in most soils with a full to partially sunny exposure and average moisture. Two well-known natives are Meadowsweet (*S. latifolia*) and Hardhack (*S. tomentosa*). Spring-flowering species bloom on last season's growth. Prune some of the growth in early spring to increase the flower cluster size. The summer-flowering species bloom on this year's growth and usually require no pruning at all. Each year we offer a few of our favorite spireas, varying our selection annually.



***S.* x *billiardii* 'Billiard'** 6x4' (*S. douglasii* x *S. salicifolia*) I still recall how pleased I was the first time I saw the showy rose-pink flowers that bloom throughout the summer on narrow upright pyramidal 4-8" panicles. It's the nicest color I've seen in a spirea, neither garish nor washed-out. Fairly tall upright habit, suckering and forming colonies over time. Suited to hedges or embankments. Plant it where you'll see it every day in summer. Long sharp serrate medium grey-green foliage is tomentose in spring. Prefers dry acid soils and full sun. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

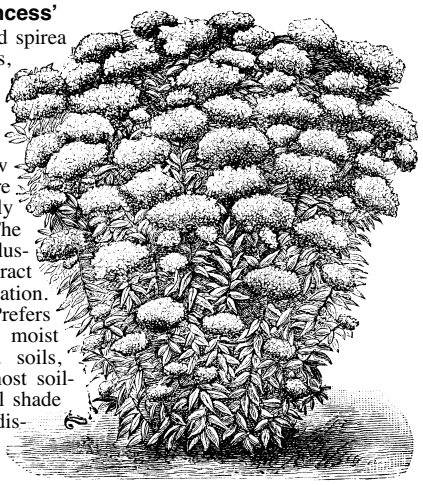
5612 Billiard Spirea, $11.00

***S.* x *cinerea* 'Grefsheim'** 4-5' x same. (*S. cana* x *S. hypericifolia*) Norway, before 1884. Dense shrub with arching branches. Not as large as 'Vanhoutte' and flowers even earlier. The leafless stems are completely covered with white flower clusters in spring. According to Michael Dirr, "about as handsome an early flowering spirea as one could hope to find." When the fine light feathery foliage appears, it is small and a soft blue-green. Will thrive in any good soil with plenty of moisture. Genus native to Northern Hemisphere. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-30" transplants)

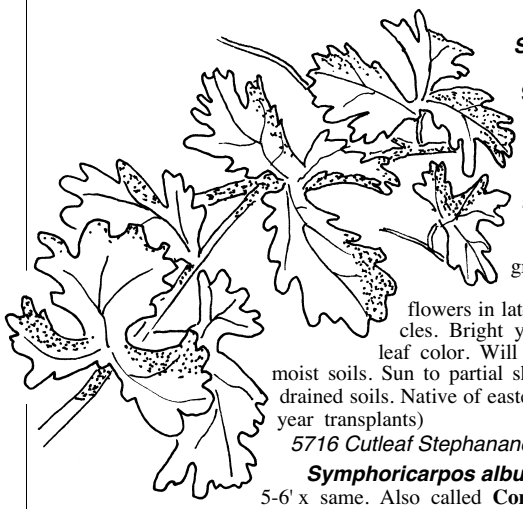


5634 Grefsheim Spirea, $11.00

***S. japonica* 'Lemon Princess'** 1½-2' x 2-3' Low mounded spirea suited to specimen plantings, low borders or hedges. Called Lemon Princess for its attractive rounded foliage variously described as golden yellow to yellow green. I'd call it somewhere in between. It's definitely got a lot of yellow in it. The flat-rounded pink flower clusters in late spring will attract your local butterfly population. Full sun to partial shade. Prefers average to fertile slightly moist well-drained slightly acid soils, but is pretty tolerant of most soil-types. Don't plant it in full shade or in a wet spot. Generally disease free. Native of Japan. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2 year transplants)



5662 Lemon Princess Spirea, $11.00

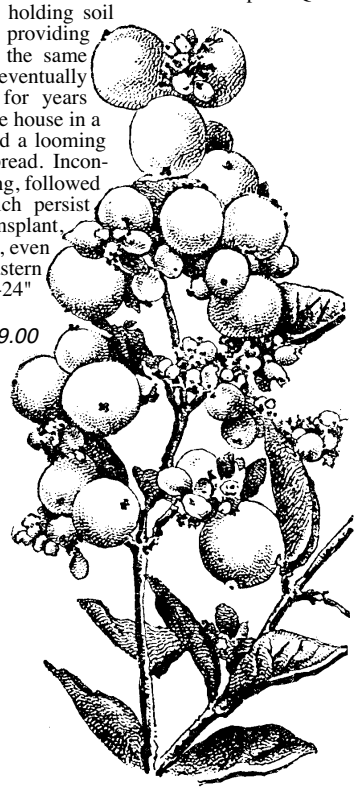


***Stephanandra incisa* 'Crispa' Cutleaf Stephanandra** 1½-3' x same. Low-growing mounding shrub with a dense tangle of slender arching branches and finely cut lacy foliage. Suckers freely forming an excellent groundcover. Less lawn! Small yellow-white flowers in late spring on loose panicles. Bright yellow and orange fall leaf color. Will root where it touches moist soils. Sun to partial shade. Moist acid well-drained soils. Native of eastern Asia. **ME Grown.** (2 year transplants)

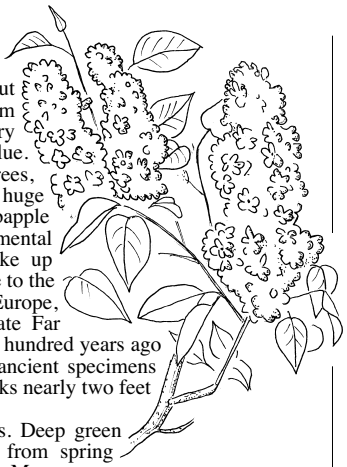
5716 Cutleaf Stephanandra, $11.00

***Symphoricarpos albus* White Snowberry** 5-6' x same. Also called **Common Snowberry** or **Waxberry**. Broad rounded arching spreading long-stemmed wildlife shrub. Medium-small ripple-edged foliage of muted multi-shaded blues and greens. The edge of each leaf is unique, a bit like sassafras in that respect. Quite beautiful all summer. Excellent for holding soil on a steep shady moist bank and providing good wildlife cover and forage at the same time. Will spread with age and eventually form colonies. Mine has thrived for years tucked into a corner at the back of the house in a hodgepodge of ferns, raspberries and a looming lilac; it's just now beginning to spread. Inconspicuous pinkish flowers in late spring, followed by plump ½" whitish berries which persist until the birds get them. Easy to transplant, adaptable to most soils, sun or shade, even clay and city conditions. Native eastern U.S. south to Virginia. Z3. (18-24" transplants)

5720 White Snowberry, $9.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



Syringa **Lilac** is known nearly everywhere by some variation of the Persian word *lilak* (meaning 'bluish'), but lilacs actually come in colors ranging from brilliant white to pink to red to every conceivable shade of purple and even blue. From small shrubs to large shrubs and trees, compact vase-shaped specimens to huge rounded spreading masses, only the crabapple offers a greater selection among ornamental woody plants. Twenty-three species make up the genus *Syringa*, two of which are native to the limestone mountains of southeastern Europe, while the rest are native to the temperate Far East. First brought to America nearly four hundred years ago by French Jesuit missionaries, there are ancient specimens on Michigan's Mackinac Islands with trunks nearly two feet in diameter.

Lilacs are excellent alone or in hedges. Deep green glossy heart-shaped foliage looks good from spring through fall. Intensely fragrant blooms in May over a period of several weeks.

As with roses and crabapples, we vary our list each year to give you a wide selection over the course of time. If you have suggestions for cultivars you'd like us to offer, please let us know. The Lyle Littlefield Garden remains the best place in Maine to see lilacs in bloom. If words can't do it for you, go up to Orono next May or take a trip down to the Arnold Arboretum just outside Boston for the world-famous Lilac Sunday. (See #**4912**, p. 33, for Tree Lilac.) (2-3 year beefy transplants)

S. x chinensis 'Saugeana' **Red Chinese Lilac** 10x20' (*S. laciniata* x *S. v.*) John C Loudon introduction, 1885. Most years this has been my favorite at the Arnold Arboretum's Lilac Sunday. Large graceful broad round-topped many-stemmed vase-shaped shrub with arching branches. Covered with fragrant purply-pink-red blossoms. At its best as a specimen plant, it does not spread from suckers like the common (*vulgaris*) types. Originally an accidental cross discovered in the Botanic Garden at Rouen, France, in 1777, *S.* x *chinensis* differs both in form and flower from the *vulgaris* types. Blooms are smaller, more delicate and more profuse. The red flowering *'Saugeana'* is the best known of this group of crosses between the Chinese, *S. laciniata* and the standard European *S. vulgaris*. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5734 Saugeana Chinese Lilac, $12.75

S.* x *hyacinthiflora **'Sister Justina'** 8x10' FL Skinner intro, Morden, Manitoba, Canada, 1956. Cream-colored buds and wonderfully fragrant single white flowers. Blooms early with the other hyacinthifloras before the common types. Medium-sized rounded arching form. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens and Arnold lilac curator Jack Alexander's favorite early white. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5763 Sister Justina Lilac, $12.75

S. oblata **'Betsy Ross'** 9x13' (*S. oblata* x unidentified *Syringa*) Bred by Donald Egolf in 1977. U.S. Arboretum introduction, 2000. Very early blooming fragrant single white blooms will cover the multi-stemmed, compact rounded shrub. Selected with warmer districts in mind. We recommend Betsy Ross for central New England south where it will bloom reliably despite warmer temperatures. Mildew tolerant. Named for the first lady of flags. Z4/5. **ME Grown.**

5771 Betsy Ross Lilac, $12.75

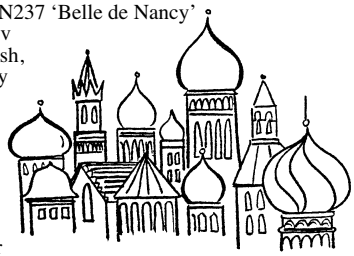
S.* x *prestoniae (S. reflexa* x *S. villosa) **'Donald Wyman'** 8-10' x same. Introduced by FL Skinner, Manitoba, Canada. Unique spicy scented deep pink to red buds and flowers on large pyramidal spikes. Originally developed in the 1920s in Ottawa by Isabella Preston, and considered the best of the Preston hybrids. Named for the former director of Arnold Arboretum, one of America's greatest horticulturists. Blooms two weeks after the common lilacs. It's always a surprise to smell the Donald Wyman out in the yard. I look around in disbelief and there it is! Upright, dense form. Extremely hardy. Z2. **ME Grown.**

5781 Donald Wyman Lilac, $12.75

S. vulgaris **Common Purple Lilac** 12-15' x same. A mass of medium-light purple blooms every year. A magnificent New England sight for nearly 400 years. When a nursery friend looked out my living room window and thought I had some fancy new cultivar, I chuckled, "Nope, just the good old common purple." Never a disappointment. Suckers freely, the best lilac for a spreading hedge. Z2. **ME Grown.**

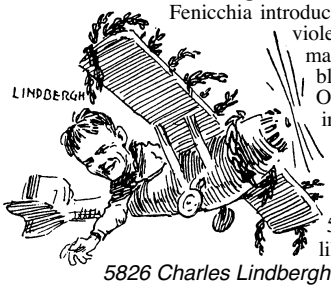
5801 Common Purple Lilac, $12.75

S. v. 'Krasavitzka Mosky' 12x8' N237 'Belle de Nancy' x 'I V Mitchurin'. Leonid Kolesnikov introduction, Russia, 1974. (In English, **Beauty of Moscow**.) Dazzling pearly lavender-pink buds open to double delicate light pink-shaded white flowers. Described by John Fiala in his book on lilacs as "excellent in every way." Considered one of the best creations by one of the master hybridizers of the 20th century. Prolific vigorous upright plant. Later than other *vulgaris* types. Z3. **ME Grown.**



5821 Beauty of Moscow Lilac, $12.75

S. v. **Charles Lindbergh** (Rochester x Madame Charles Souchet) Richard Fenicchia introduction, 1998. If you like blue and you like violet and can't decide betwixt the two, this may be your best choice. Charles Lindbergh blooms *both* single blue *and* single violet. One of 17 magnificent 'Rochester hybrid' introductions by Richard Fenicchia, one of the greatest modern lilac breeders and horticulturist of the famous Highland Park in Rochester, NY, from 1950 to 1978. Highland Park is the home of over 500 lilac varieties and a 10-day annual lilac festival every May. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**



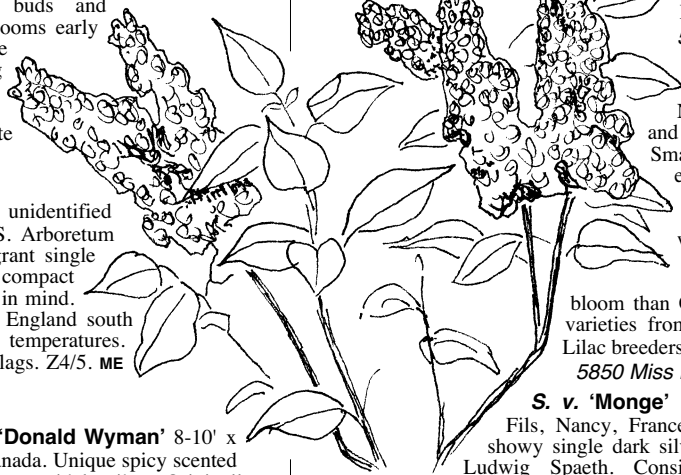
5826 Charles Lindbergh Lilac, $12.75

S. v. **'Frederick Law Olmsted'** 9x8' (Rochester x Rochester) Richard Fenicchia introduction, 1988. Small pure-white florets on large fat panicles combine to form huge clusters that contrast strikingly with the dark green foliage. The well-rounded compact shrub appears in bloom to be covered with large blobs of pure white soap suds. My comment in my notebook this past spring was, "wow." The first great American landscape architect, Olmsted designed Central Park and the Arnold Arboretum (among other things). Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

5831 Frederick Law Olmsted Lilac, $12.75

S. v. **'Mechta'** 8-10' x same. N 230. Also called '**Mieczta**' or '**Dream**' Leonid Kolesnikov introduction. USSR, 1941. Reddish buds and large single panicles of slightly blue-tinted violet. Extremely showy, heavy flowering dependable mid-season bloomer. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens. Kolesnikov is Russia's most famous lilac breeder. He received the USSR's highest award for horticulture as well as the International Lilac Society's highest award for lilac hybridizing. He created many other exceptional lilacs including one of my favorites, Beauty of Moscow (Krasavitsa Moskvy). Probably Z3. **ME Grown.**

5847 Mechta Lilac, $12.75



S. v. **'Miss Ellen Willmott'** 10x10' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1903. Creamy buds and very thick double white blooms. Small clusters of upright panicles are evenly distributed like white polka dots on a green summer shirt. Upright slightly rounded shrub with visible undulating vertical stems. It's not a thick plant: you can see through it. A bit later to bloom than Olmsted. One of the oldest named varieties from one of the most famous of all Lilac breeders. **ME Grown.**

5850 Miss Ellen Willmott Lilac, $12.75

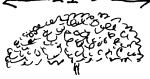
S. v. **'Monge'** 10-12' x 8-12' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1913. Large broad outstanding showy single dark silvery red-purple blooms, similar to Ludwig Spaeth. Considered one of Lemoine's best introductions. Medium-sized slightly flattish panicles, two-three per cluster. Open upright rounded form. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5856 Monge Lilac, $12.75

Lilacs are adaptable, easy to grow and practically maintenance-free. Plant them in a well-drained location in moderately rich soil. Sandy gravelly loam is perfect. They prefer sun at least two-thirds of the day. We suggest planting them with a shovelful of lime. Add another shovelful of lime every three years. A yearly mulch of manure or compost will encourage spectacular annual blooming.

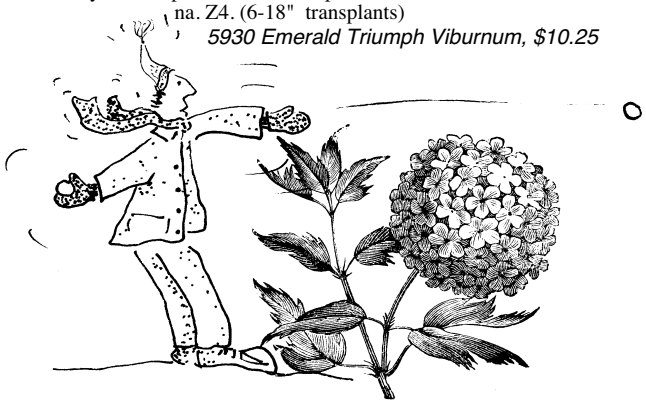
How to Prune Lilacs

As the plant matures, prune off a quarter of the new suckers and oldest growth, a few main stems each year, and keep them trimmed down to an attractive height. No need to cut off spent flowers, but for best appearance remove flower heads as soon as through blooming, using care not to injure closest pair of leafy branches.



***Viburnum* 'Emerald Triumph'** 5-6' x same. (*V. burejaeticum* x *V.* x *rhytidophylloides* 'Alleghany') U Minn Landscape Arboretum. A fast-growing upright slightly spreading shrub with a soft magical appearance and uniquely fragrant creamy-white flat-topped flowers. Blooms first in late spring and then blooms again later in the summer. Furry foliage and soft pastel-colored pubescent stems. Considered an excellent source of butterfly and bee forage. The birds will clean up the black fruit in the fall. Excellent in groupings or as a specimen. Sun or partial shade. Prefers decent well-drained soils but can handle dry conditions better than other Viburnums. Easy to transplant. No serious pests or disease. Parents native to China. Z4. (6-18" transplants)

5930 Emerald Triumph Viburnum, $10.25



***V. opulus* 'Roseum' Common Snowball Viburnum, Guelder Rose or European Snowball** 10-12' x same. Extremely showy large double snowball-like white flowers covering the vigorous shrub in spring remind you how glad you are that winter is really over. Bears profusely enough to have one heck of a snowball fight. Large coarse old-fashioned rounded habit, popular in Maine for generations and in Europe for over 400 years. Dark green three-lobed maple-like foliage. Plenty of bright red berries for the birds. Excellent in borders. Easy to grow. Adaptable to a wide range of soils but is happy in wet and even boggy spots. Flowers best in full sun. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle. Native to Europe, North Africa and northern Asia. **ME Grown.** (18-36" transplants)

5940 Snowball Viburnum, $10.25

***V. sargentii* 'Onondaga' Viburnum** 6-8' x same.' U.S. National Arboretum introduction, Ohio Plant Selection Committee, 1966. Multistemmed upright rounded coarse-textured shrub with attractive three-pronged, deeply incised maple-like foliage that opens dark maroon and maintains a velvety maroon tinge as it matures. I call it copper-mottled green. Covered with clusters of small red buds followed by purplish-white 2-5" flat-topped cymes (flowers) surrounded by white florets, and finally a scattering of translucent red berries in late summer. The red buds bordered with the first few petals are worth the price of admission. Red fall foliage. Recommeded for screens, hedges and wildlife plantings. Full sun-part shade, adaptable to extremes of soil, pH adaptable. Native to northern Asia. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-30" transplants)

5950 Onondaga Viburnum, $12.00

***V. sieboldii* 'Seneca' Viburnum** 12-14' x same (selection from a self-pollination of *V. sieboldii*) U.S. National Arboretum introduction. Large shrub with very long simple elliptic electric-lime-green foliage. Absolutely wild color. Massive creamy-white flower panicles bloom in May-June followed by blood-red fruit in August that persists for up to 3 months. Popular with the birds. Encourage its multi-branching habit by occasional pruning, or leave it alone and it will eventually look more like a small tree. Full sun-partial shade. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Needs sufficient moisture as leaf scorch may develop under dry conditions. pH adaptable. Native to Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5955 Seneca Viburnum, $10.25

***Weigela florida* 'Tango' Weigela** 2x2½' Complex cross. Weigela Dance series, Ottawa Experiment Station, Canada. Compact dense rounded slightly vase-shaped shrub that may arch to the ground. Purple yellow-veined new foliage turns greenish purple with maturity while retaining the yellow veins. The foliage is dark and quite beautiful. 1" red tubular funnel-shaped flowers have yellowish throats. Blooms for a month in late spring and early summer. Excellent in borders and in groups or as a specimen. The more the sun the more the bloom. Prefers it well-drained, but thrives in most soil conditions, city or country. Native to eastern Asia. Zone 4 maybe Zone 3. **ME Grown.** (8-12" beefy transplants)

5975 Tango Weigela, $10.25

***Wisteria* spp.** up to 50' Magnificent twining vines with pinnate leaves for pillars, trellises, arbors, walls, even trees. Flowers in spring look almost like bunches of lavender grapes hanging from an arbor, followed by bean-like pods. Vines can be quite powerful, so a very sturdy structure is in order. It can be tricky to get them to flower. We recommend light sandy soils, plenty of water and full sun.

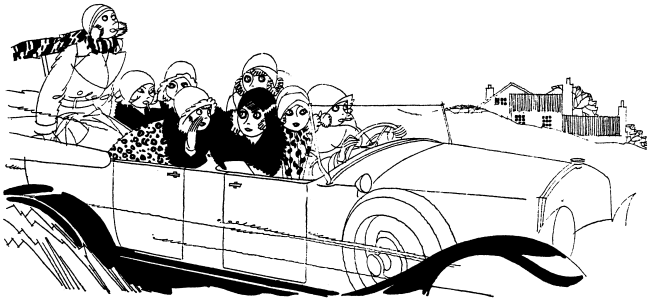
***W. macrostachya* 'Aunt Dee'** (Species also called **Kentucky Wisteria**.) 12" racemes of lilac-purple lightly fragrant flowers in late spring or early summer. Blooms later than the Blue Chinese, after the foliage comes out. 4" pods. May need protection in Zone 4. Native of southeastern U.S. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2-year medium)

5985 Aunt Dee Wisteria, $11.00

***W. sinensis* Blue Chinese Wisteria** 1" blue-violet flowers on 6-12" racemes bloom all at once before the foliage appears. Slightly fragrant. 4-6" pods. Native to China. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2 year well-rooted)

5987 Blue Chinese Wisteria, $11.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



Where can I see that tree?

There are many top quality public gardens and arboreta in the New York/New England area where you can see labelled specimens of the ornamental trees and shrubs listed in our catalog. Here are a few of the best:

Maine:

- Lyle E Littlefield Ornamentals Trial Garden, Orono (small but very good) (207)-581-2948, www.umaine.edu/lhc/ornamental.htm

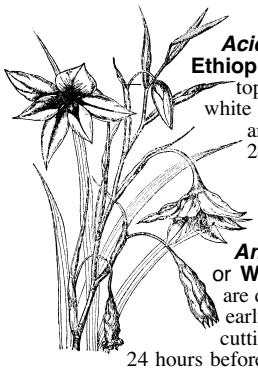
Massachusetts:

- Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain 617-524-1718, www.arboretum.harvard.edu
- Garden In The Woods, Framingham 508-877-7630, www.newfs.org/garden.htm
- Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge 617-547-7105, www.mountauburn.org
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston 508-869-6111, www.towerhillbg.org

New York:

- Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 718-623-7200, www.bbg.org
- New York Botanical Garden, Bronx 718-817-8700, www.nybg.org

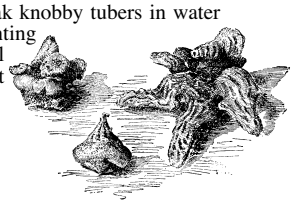
Tender Summer Bulbs are like fall-planted bulbs in that they give you an impressive display for comparatively little effort. Bulbs, corms and tubers store their energy which needs only some earth, moisture and sun to be released. They are not hardy in our climate. Energetic people lift and store them over the winter (details in the sidebar); the rest of us treat them as annuals. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.



Acidanthera murielæ **Fragrant Gladiolus** or **Ethiopian Gladiolus** produces sword-like foliage topped by wonderfully scented star-shaped 2" white flowers with mahogany-purple centers on arching stems. Useful as a garden or cutflower. 24" tall. Culture like gladiolus.

6011*: 10/$2.75;*
6012*: 20/$4.75;*
6013*: 50/$11.00*

Anemone coronaria **De Caen mix Anemone** or **Windflower** Charming single flowers 1-3" wide are dark purple-blue, red, rose or white and appear in early summer. Good for borders, containers and for cutting. 8-10" tall. Soak knobby tubers in water 24 hours before early-spring planting 1-2" deep, 4-8" apart. Anemones enjoy full sun and light sandy soil but must be kept moist during the growing season.



6021*: 10/$2.80;*
6022*: 20/$4.80;*
6023*: 50/$10.90*

Begonia **x** ***tuberhybrida*** **Tuberous Begonia** Lush textures, intense colors and a tropical aura make this tender temperamental plant well worth cultivating. Velvety flowers bloom all summer, drooping languidly amidst red-tinted foliage. Excellent bedding or container plants. Best in a cool spot with lots of indirect sunlight and air circulation. Moist but not soggy fertile soil. I'v discovered during our recent wet years that they *love* moisture. Now I drench mine every day, feed heavily and stand back to ooh and ah! Plant outside, concave side up, 1/2-1" deep and 12-15" apart when night temperatures rise above 50˚ or, for a longer season, start indoors and plant out later. Pinch back to encourage more blooms. The Camellia is Multiflora type and the Hanging is, of course, pendulous.

Copper Double Camellia deep burnished orange, 12" tall. 2 1/2" tubers.

6031*: 2/$4.00;*
6032*: 4/$7.50;*
6033*: 6/$10.90*

Dark Red Camellia 12" tall. 2 1/2" tubers.

6041*: 2/$4.00;*
6042*: 4/$7.50;*
6043*: 6/$10.90*

Orange Hanging Basket 12" tall. 2 1/4" tubers.

6051*: 2/$4.00;*
6052*: 4/$7.50;*
6053*: 6/$10.90*

Yellow Hanging Basket 2-3' long. 2 1/4" tubers.

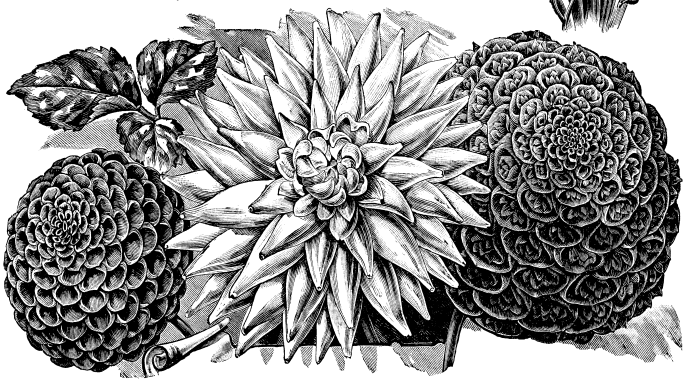
6061*: 2/$4.00;*
6062*: 4/$7.50;*
6063*: 6/$10.90*

Picotee 'Rosebud' white outlined with dark pink. 12" tall. 2 1/2" tubers.

6071*: 2/$4.00;*
6072*: 4/$7.50;*
6073*: 6/$10.90*

Crocosmia **x** ***crocosmiiflora*** **'Lucifer'** glows in the garden or makes a long-lasting cutflower. Midsummer sprays of bright red flowers opening from bottom to top on curving flower stalks look like bursts of flame above their gladiolus-like foliage. "Lucifer" means "light-bearing" and refers to the blossoms looking like lighted matches. Grows well in pots. 24-36" tall. Plant 3" deep, 3" apart in moist, well-drained soil.

6081*: 5/$3.50;*
6082*: 15/$9.75;*
6083*: 30/$18.50*



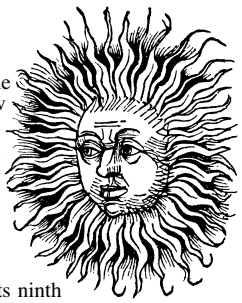
Dahlia Bushy bedding plant and prolific cutflower producer blooms from midsummer until frost. Native to hot parts of the Americas and first developed as a food crop, ornamental dahlias are descended from years of breeding and hybridizing *D. pinnata* and *D. juarezi*. Earl Waterman grew all this year's stock at his Roadtown Dahlia Patch in Shutesbury, MA. These are large tubers.

D. **Dazzle** Earl says, "This flower is a head-turner. If you like BIG, this is BIG, full foot above anything else." Yellow-orange 6-8" flowers on sturdy 6' plants that rarely tip over. One or two flowers work as part of a bouquet. You won't need more unless you are making an arrangement for a space like the lobby of the Metropolitan Museum.

6091*: 1/$2.90;*
6092*: 3/$7.50;*
6093*: 6/$14.00*

D. **Peter's Purple** Tall 4' bushy plants with 5" light purple flowers, good as specimens. Long straight stems for cuts. "Spectacular, impressive eye-bender," says our modest grower.

6101*: 1/$2.90;*
6102*: 3/$7.50;*
6103*: 6/$13.80*



D. **Sunburst** Earl again: "If you can plant one plant—plant this." Flowers are a red-yellow combination. Under good conditions, red dominates; in drought, it's yellow tinged with red. 3-4" flowers good for drying and go well with almost anything. 36-42" tall plant.

6111*: 1/$2.90;*
6112*: 3/$7.50;*
6113*: 6/$13.90*

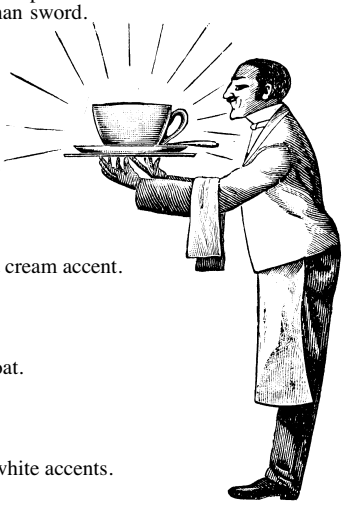
D. **Earl's Tall Mix** More popular than ever in its ninth year on our list, includes pink, yellow, light purple, white, red and dark red 3-6" flowers, pompon and decorative (standard) styles. Plants 3-4' tall.

6121*: 2/$4.70;*
6122*: 4/$8.20;*
6123*: 8/$15.25*

Tender Summer Bulbs
In our climate, these tender spring-planted summer-blooming bulbs, corms and tubers will not survive the winter outdoors. You may dig them up in the fall after foliage dies, dry them and gently brush off soil and debris, store somewhere dark and cool (40-50˚) for the winter in a medium like dry peat or sawdust, and then replant in spring. Or grow them in pots and relocate as the weather dictates. Or treat them as annuals and compost them at the end of the season.

Dahlia Needs 3-4 hours per day of direct sun, tolerant of full sun to light shade. Plant 3-4" deep, 12-24" apart. Conventional wisdom says to plant after danger of frost is past, but our grower in Massachusetts plants his the same time as his peas, and stresses the importance of early planting, saying they recover in the rare event that the first foliage is killed by frost. Dahlias often need staking, but close plantings can support each other. Dahlia blooms are susceptible to insect damage, especially in the bud stage. Tarnish plant bugs, leaf hoppers and thrips are all suspect. Think out a control program ahead of time. Keeping the flowers picked keeps some pests down.

***Gladiolus* Sword Lily** is a showy summer bloomer and excels as a cutflower. Each 36" tall stalk is covered with 10 or more open funnel-shaped flowers that bloom from bottom to top. Named for the their sword-like leaves; a *gladiolus* was a small Roman sword. Gladiolus bulbs are 1½" and up.



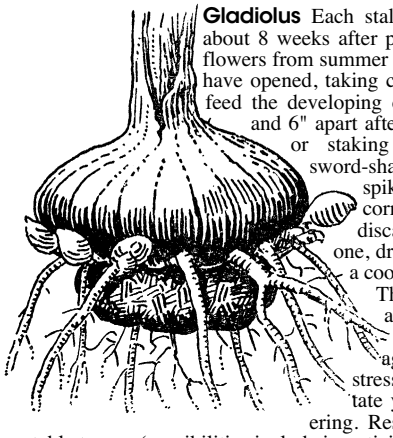
G. 'Blue Tropic' deep lavender.
***6131**: 10/$3.00;*
***6132**: 20/$5.50;*
***6133**: 50/$12.50*

***G.* 'Espresso'** dark rich red-brown.
***6141**: 10/$3.00;*
***6142**: 20/$5.50;*
***6143**: 50/$12.50*

***G.* 'Nori'** violet-blue with prominent cream accent.
***6151**: 10/$3.00;*
***6152**: 20/$5.50;*
***6153**: 50/$12.50*

***G.* 'Praha'** coral-apricot, lighter throat.
***6161**: 10/$3.00;*
***6162**: 20/$5.50;*
***6163**: 50/$12.50*

***G.* 'Traderhorn'** crimson red with white accents.
***6171**: 10/$3.00;*
***6172**: 20/$5.50;*
***6173**: 50/$12.50*



Gladiolus Each stalk blooms for about a week, about 8 weeks after planting. Stagger plantings for flowers from summer to frost. Cut when 2-3 flowers have opened, taking care to spare the leaves which feed the developing corm. Plant corms 4-6" deep and 6" apart after the last spring frost. Hilling or staking may be needed if their sword-shaped foliage and 3-4' flower spikes get top heavy. Dig up the corms after the tops have died, discard the old one, clean the new one, dry, and store loose (no peat) in a cool dry place.

Thrips are a problem for glads, and infestations—indicated by yellowing and spotted foliage—are aggravated by water stress. Be prepared lest they devastate your plants and prevent flowering. Research a control program acceptable to you (possibilities include insecticidal soap, garlic, pyrethrum, or rotenone), have it on hand, and use it at the first sign of infestation.

Bare-Root Perennial Plants

Treat bare-root perennials like tender annuals for their first growing season, when they typically focus on root growth. Once established, usually in the second year, they are vigorous and floriferous.

When you receive your order, open the bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not soft or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40˚) location for a short time.

Pot up the roots in well-drained potting mix. Most plants need a deep 6" pot or a 1-gallon container. Avoid coiling the roots in the bottom of undersized containers. Grow newly potted perennials for a few weeks in a protected location in indirect light at 50-60˚ and keep them from freezing. Wet and/or cold conditions for an extended period may cause rotting. Begin feeding when new growth appears. Keep dry fertilizers away from plant crowns. Animal manures should be used with caution as they can promote fungal and bacterial diseases.

Transplant out after danger of frost, once they show some top growth. Dig a hole about twice the size of the pot, loosening the surrounding soil and adding compost or fertilizers as necessary. Generally, plant the top of the crown just below ground level, less than an inch from the surface of the soil.

Nearly all perennials appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring.

***G.* 'White Prosperity'** bright white, ruffled.
***6181**: 10/$3.00;*
***6182**: 20/$5.50;*
***6183**: 50/$12.50*

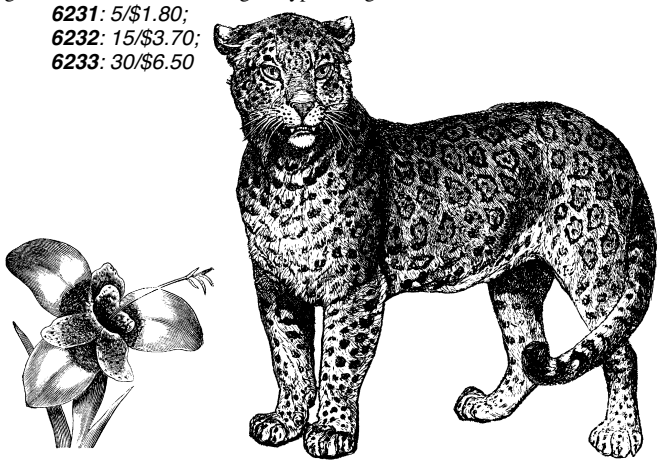
***G.* 'Wigs Sensation'** vivid orange.
***6191**: 10/$3.00;*
***6192**: 20/$5.50;*
***6193**: 50/$12.50*

***G.* 'Yellowstone'** solid bright yellow.
***6201**: 10/$3.00;*
***6202**: 20/$5.50;*
***6203**: 50/$12.50*

Large-Flowering Glad Mix
***6211**: 10/$2.75;*
***6212**: 20/$5.00;*
***6213**: 50/$10.75*

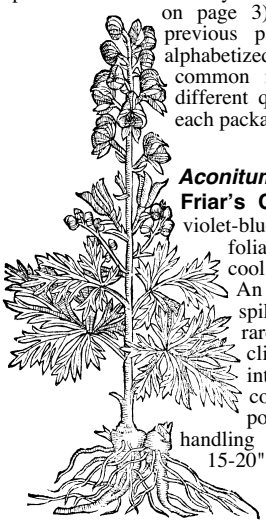
Nanus Glad Mix miniature, mixed colors, many bicolors, 24" tall. I was going to drop these until my first one bloomed. They're darling! Very satisfying clumped in a bed or as cuts. Some suppliers offer these as Hardy Glads, said to be hardy in Zone 5, but mine in the warmest part of Zone 4 did not come back from our strange open watery winter.
***6221**: 10/$3.50;*
***6222**: 20/$6.50;*
***6223**: 50/$15.00*

***Tigridia pavonia* Tiger Flower Mix** Neat looking triangular 5-6" flowers consist of three big petals, flat in vivid solid colors on the outer half, which join three smaller petals to form a cup-shaped center. The inside of the cup has dark mottled markings resembling those of a jaguar, the "tiger" of the name. Plant in full sun, very well-drained soil, keep moist. Blooms in August on stalks 2-3' tall with glad-type foliage about 20" tall.
***6231**: 5/$1.80;*
***6232**: 15/$3.70;*
***6233**: 30/$6.50*



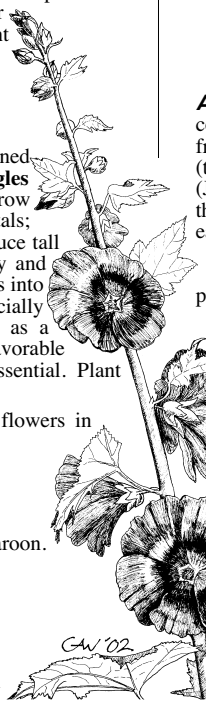
Herbaceous Perennial Plants

Most of the perennial plants we offer are hardy at least into Zone 4. USDA hardiness zone (chart on page 3) follows each description. See sidebar on previous page for planting instructions. The list is alphabetized by botanical names, in italics, followed by common names. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.



Aconitum napellus **English Monkshood** or **Friar's Cap** produces dense showy spikes of deep violet-blue helmet-shaped flowers above elegant palmate foliage in late summer. Plant in a partially shaded, cool and moist location for longest-lasting flowers. An excellent cutflower—cut when 1/3 to 1/2 the spike is in bloom. Grand delphinium-style blooms rarely need staking. I love watching bumble bees climb under the hood and completely disappear into the flowers then clamber back out again covered with pollen. The entire plant is poisonous; wash your hands after handling or cutting. 36-40" tall. Plant 15-20" apart in moist soil. Z3.

***6241**: 1/$2.90;*
***6242**: 3/$7.00;*
***6243**: 6/$12.00*



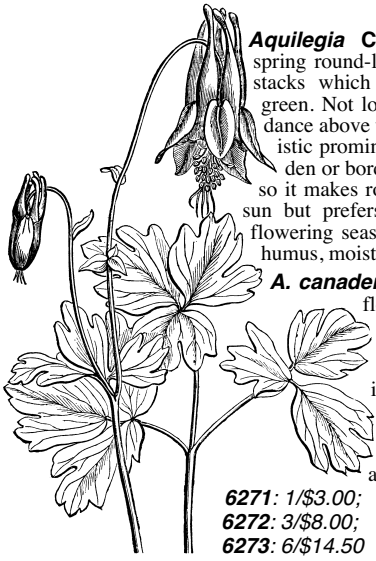
Alcea rosea **Hollyhock** is a self-sowing staple old-fashioned gardens. Our offerings illustrate the difference between **singles** and **doubles** in garden-talk. Single flowers have, yes, a single row of petals around their centers. Doubles have *many* rows of petals; fully double means totally filled with petals. Hollyhocks produce tall spires of big round flowers for extended bloom through July and August. Their mixed colors range from white through the pinks into rose and maroon with an occasional yellow or salmon. Officially perennial, they can be short-lived, and are best cultivated as a biennials which readily self-sow once established in favorable conditions. Like full sun. Wind protection or staking is essential. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. Z3.

A. r. **'Chater's Double' Mix** Fully double hemispherical flowers in mixed colors provide a spectacular excess of bloom. 4-6' tall.

***6251**: 1/$3.00;*
***6252**: 3/$7.75;*
***6253**: 6/$14.00*

A. r. **'Nigra'** "Black" hollyhock is really dark chocolate-maroon. Single flowers much-coveted for their wonderful shade. 6' tall.

***6261**: 1/$3.25;*
***6262**: 3/$8.00;*
***6263**: 6/$15.25*



Aquilegia **Columbine** In early spring round-lobed leaves form little stacks which unfurl prettily when little else is green. Not long after, flowers atop vertical stems dance above the foliage displaying their characteristic prominent five spurs. Good for cutting garden or border. Foliage dwindles in summer heat so it makes room for late-bloomers. Tolerates full sun but prefers partial shade which prolongs the flowering season. Plant in light soil with adequate humus, moisture and drainage. Z3.

A. canadensis **Wild Columbine** Spurred red flowers are highlighted by noticeable bright yellow stamens which hang below the petals and "give a jewel-like effect," as Marilyn Dwelley says in her *Spring Wildflowers of New England*. Self-sows in my dooryard and brightens our springs. 12-24" tall, plant 8-12" apart. Nursery propagated from native plants.

***6271**: 1/$3.00;*
***6272**: 3/$8.00;*
***6273**: 6/$14.50*

A. **'McKana Giants'** The McKana strain variously called 'Giants' or 'Hybrids', an old British hybrid of uncertain parentage, combines the delights of the wild columbine habit with big flowers sporting long spurs and a bright bold assortment of colors, including bicolors. Both flowers and blooming period last longer than wild columbines. Excellent for cutting. Plant 12-18" apart. 24-30" tall.

***6281**: 1/$2.90;*
***6282**: 3/$7.00;*
***6283**: 6/$12.00*

Arisaema triphyllum **Jack-in-the-Pulpit** In midspring one or two compound leaves emerge close to the ground, each with three leaflets framing an upright stem topped by a tannish-purple 3" long cuplike spathe (the pulpit) which contains and arches over the erect greenish-yellow spadix (Jack). It's a great pleasure, one I still remember, for the two- or three-year-old set to lift the flap and see Jack. Wildflower native to the eastern U.S. Native Americans used the dried root medicinally, but calcium oxalate crystals in the fresh plant are intensely irritating. Easy to grow in moist woodsy soil with plenty of humus and shade. About 12" tall. Nursery propagated. Z4.

***6291**: 1/$3.00;*
***6292**: 3/$7.50;*
***6293**: 6/$13.75*

Artemisia dracunculus **var. *sativa* 'Tarragon' French Tarragon** really is culinary tarragon, the flavoring with a hint of anise well known for its use with vinegar, salads, poultry and fish. Bushy, with long narrow grey-green leaves, looks like a small shrub. Mine provided years of trouble-free performance and culinary pizzazz. 18-40" tall. Easy to grow, especially in poor dry soil, full sun. Needs good drainage and some use a winter mulch. Z4.

***6301**: 1/$4.00;*
***6302**: 3/$10.50;*
***6303**: 6/$19.00*

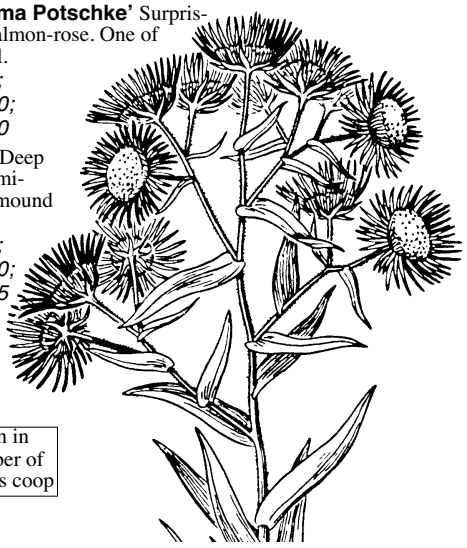
Aster **Starwort** or **Frost Flower** are familiar summer and fall wildflowers throughout the nation. These varieties are selected for outstanding color and form but are still robust and easy to grow. Flowers provide great displays in fall, attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last long in the vase. Deer don't usually eat them. Plant singly, group in the border, or naturalize in meadows or on banks. Cut back slightly in early-mid June to induce an abundance of 1 1/2-2" rayed blooms from late August into October. Asters are at their peak when most plants have faded. Plant 12-18" apart in light moist humusy soil in full sun with good air circulation. Z4.

A. novae-angliae **'Alma Potschke'** Surprising wonderful intense salmon-rose. One of my favorites. 30-36" tall.

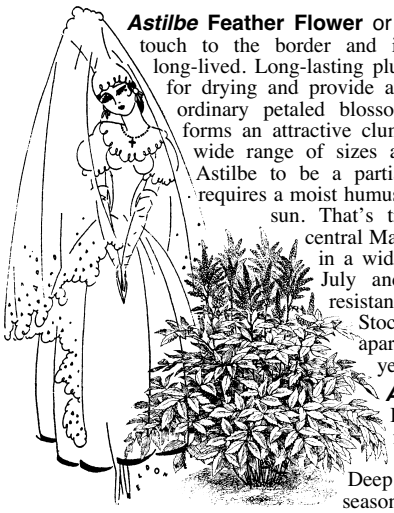
***6311**: 1/$4.00;*
***6312**: 3/$10.50;*
***6313**: 6/$19.00*

A. novi-belgii **'Alert'** Deep crimson purplish-red semi-double flowers cover a mound 12-15" high.

***6321**: 1/$4.00;*
***6322**: 3/$10.50;*
***6323**: 6/$18.75*



ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



***Astilbe* Feather Flower** or **False Spirea** lends a novel touch to the border and is easy to grow, hardy and long-lived. Long-lasting plumy feathery flowers are good for drying and provide an interesting contrast to more ordinary petaled blossoms. Elegant fern-like foliage forms an attractive clump all season and comes in a wide range of sizes and shades. Convention holds Astilbe to be a partial-shade plant that absolutely requires a moist humusy acid soil when grown in full sun. That's true in warmer areas, but in central Maine it seems to tolerate full sun in a wide range of conditions. Blooms July and August. Said to be deer-resistant, but I wouldn't bet the ranch. Stock has 2-3 "eyes." Plant 12-18" apart and divide clumps every few years. Z4.

***A.* x *arendsii* 'Bridal Veil'** Elegant sprays of lacy white flowers. Panicles gently droop at the tips for a nodding affect. Deep green glossy foliage. Mid-season. 28-32" tall.

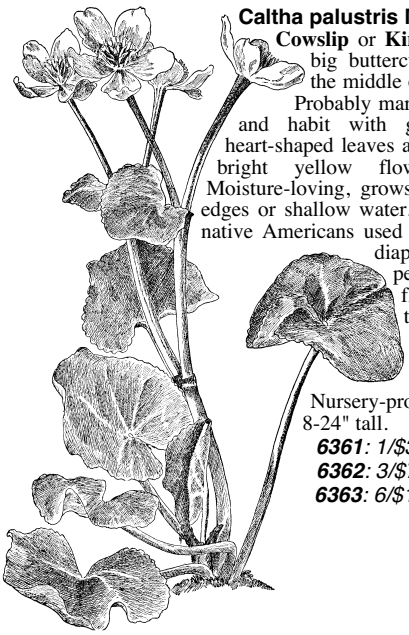
***6331**: 1/$3.00;*
***6332**: 3/$8.00;*
***6333**: 6/$13.75*

***A. japonica* 'Rheinland'** Bright rich rose-pink flowers on large diamond-shaped panicles. Grower Bianca St. Louis explains that flower buds are clustered closer together than most astilbes so color is more intense. Vigorous and floriferous. Medium-green foliage. Early season. 24" tall. **ME Grown.**

***6341**: 1/$3.00;*
***6342**: 3/$8.00;*
***6343**: 6/$14.00*

***Baptisia australis* False Indigo** or **Wild Indigo** makes a fine long-blooming specimen in the border or wild garden, sometimes used like a shrub. Upright leguminous plant with grey-green stems and blue-green leaves. Indigo-blue flowers on arching 12" racemes in mid-late spring followed by fat black seed pods good in dried arrangements. Untroubled by pests or drought, tolerates poor soil. Starts small, no blooms for a couple of years, bushes out by third year. Becomes 3-5' tall, may need staking. Native to eastern U.S. So why is it named *australis*? Because that means 'southern'. ('From Australia' is *australiensis*.) The genus name, from *baptein* meaning to dip or dye, refers to Baptisia's occasional use as in indigo substitute. Plant 2-3' apart in deep rich soil. Flowers best in full sun, but tolerates shade. This year's stock grown at Fieldstone Gardens in Vassalboro. Z3.

***6351**: 1/$3.50;*
***6352**: 3/$9.50;*
***6353**: 6/$18.00*

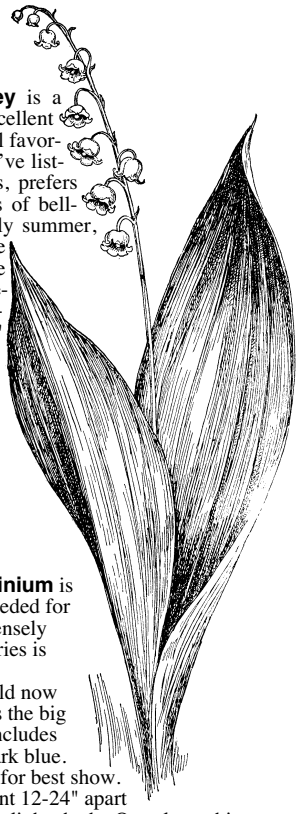


Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold Also called **Cowslip** or **Kingcup**. Ever see a clump of big buttercup-like flowers blooming in the middle of a bog in very early spring? Probably marsh marigold. Variable in size and habit with glossy dark green toothed heart-shaped leaves and covered with waxy single bright yellow flowers up to 2" across. Moisture-loving, grows in rich boggy soil, water's edges or shallow water. Full sun. A powerful plant: native Americans used it as an emetic, diuretic and diaphoretic. Some books say that people eat the leaves and flowerbuds, others indicate that it is rather poisonous, as one might guess from the medicinal uses. All parts of the plant may irritate the skin. Nursery-propagated native wildflower. 8-24" tall.

***6361**: 1/$3.00;*
***6362**: 3/$7.75;*
***6363**: 6/$14.00*

***Cimicifuga ramosa* 'Atropurpurea' Bugbane** I first noticed this cultivar in a posh Bar Harbor garden, but I've had my own for several years now and it has proven wonderfully resilient. Green tri-pinnate foliage with a purple cast, something like an Astilbe, forms a tall erect clump over which beautiful arching mauve-purple stems tower. The whole astounding arrangement reaches 4-8' tall. My favorite time is when the stems are lined with purple-brown squat button-like buds slowly swelling for 3-4 weeks in August. Blooms in September with lushly fragrant creamy-white bottlebrush flowers. Plant 2-3' apart in moist fertile humus-rich soil, partial shade. Don't confuse with medicinal Black Cohosh, *C. racemosa*, which we list in Medicinals Section, #**7081**. Z3.

***6371**: 1/$7.75;*
***6372**: 2/$14.50;*
***6373**: 3/$19.00*



***Convallaria majalis* Lily of the Valley** is a hardy bedding or border plant and an excellent ground cover, even for dry shade. Perennial favorite and a top-seller for all 20 years that we've listed it. Easy to grow under any conditions, prefers partial to full shade. Produces long stems of bell-shaped fragrant flowers in late spring-early summer, followed by small orange berries. Intense fragrance and delicate shape add welcome notes to bouquets. We are list both the beloved regular white one and a coveted pricy pink variety. Plant pips 2" deep, 3-5" apart in rich moist soil. 6-8" tall. Z2.

***C. m.* white.**

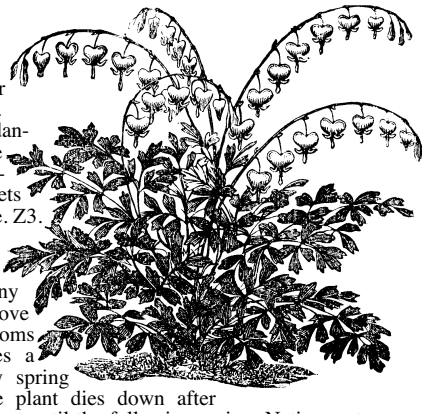
***6381**: 5/$3.25;*
***6382**: 10/$5.75;*
***6383**: 25/$13.00*

***C. m. 'Rosea'* pink.**

***6391**: 1/$4.50;*
***6392**: 3/$12.00;*
***6393**: 6/$22.00*

***Delphinium* 'Magic Fountains' Delphinium** is wonderful for small gardens. No staking needed for these sturdy early summer 28-36" spikes densely covered in flowers. The Magic Fountain series is long-lived and easier to grow than the big delphiniums. My blue one is over 5 years old now and makes a show every summer that rivals the big ones for profusion of lavish flowers. Mix includes white, pink, lavender, lilac, sky blue and dark blue. Sidedress lightly early, mid and late spring for best show. Cut spent flowerstalks for fall rebloom. Plant 12-24" apart in highly fertile non-acid loam in full sun or light shade. Our plants this year are in 3" plugs. Z3.

***6401**: 1/$3.50;*
***6402**: 3/$9.00;*
***6403**: 6/$17.00*



***Dicentra* Bleeding Heart** Graceful racemes arch over clumps of attractive cut foliage. Distinctively shaped flowers dangle in a row on each raceme like charms on a bracelet. Hardy long-lived plant when it gets rich moist soil and partial shade. Z3.

***D. cucularia* Dutchman's Breeches** White yellow-tipped flowers look like so many tiny pantaloons hanging above very finely cut foliage. Blooms with the daffodils and makes a wonderful accent in an early spring garden. An ephemeral: whole plant dies down after flowering; tubers remain dormant until the following spring. Native eastern wildflower, rescued from sites about to be developed and nursery propagated. 8-12" tall.

***6411**: 1/$2.90;*
***6412**: 3/$7.50;*
***6413**: 6/$14.25*

***D. formosa* 'Luxuriant' Western Bleeding Heart** Blooms all summer and tolerates heat and drought better than any other *Dicentra*. Cherry red flowers defy the elements as they dangle above lush finely-cut light green foliage which is pretty as a fern's. Excellent border plant with spreading habit, 12-15" tall.

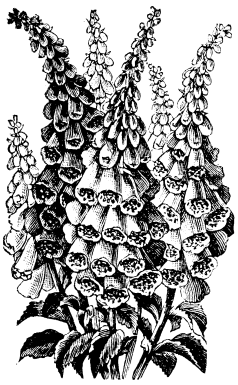
***6421**: 1/$4.00;*
***6422**: 3/$10.50;*
***6423**: 6/$19.00*

***D. spectabilis* Old-Fashioned Bleeding Heart** Old garden favorite delights every spring with pink heart-shaped flowers with white detail. Blooms with late tulips and complements them well. Also useful for cutting. Prefers plenty of room to bush out. Mine surprised both me and its neighbors when it became over 6' wide in two years. I moved it rather unceremoniously to a less hospitable spot and it has been manageable ever since. Foliage tends to die back in summer heat. Plant 2-4" deep, 24" apart. 30-36" tall. Our stock has 2-3 eyes. Z3.

***6431**: 1/$3.00;*
***6432**: 3/$7.50;*
***6433**: 6/$13.75*

***D. spectabilis* 'Alba' White Bleeding Heart** Same as above except the dangling flowers are pure white and the plant habit, like so many Albas, is less robust, more restrained. Back on our list by popular demand!

***6441**: 1/$3.25;*
***6442**: 3/$7.75;*
***6443**: 6/$14.00*



***Digitalis* x *mertonensis* Strawberry Foxglove** Pendulous 2½" bell-shaped copper-tinged strawberry-rose flowers with spotted throats dangle along 3-4' spires June till August. Good for cutting or border. Basal rosette of big velvety leaves. Large true-breeding tetraploid hybrid needs dividing every 3 years. Plant 24-36" apart in moist slightly acid soil in full sun to partial shade. Z4.

***6451**: 1/$3.90;*
***6452**: 3/$10.00;*
***6453**: 6/$19.00*

Ferns One summer day long ago, I drove a friend from down south around Maine. "What magnificent beautiful ferns!" she kept exclaiming. Until that day, they were merely plants on the side of the road to me. Since then I've always noticed what lush roadside fern displays we enjoy in Maine several months of the year.

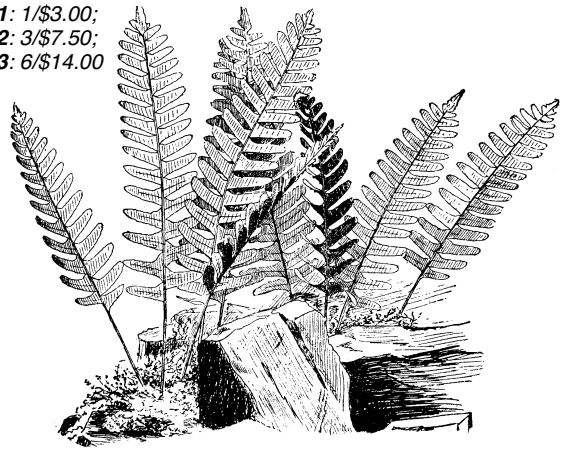
Ferns are flowerless spore-producing perennials represented by over 10,000 species worldwide, ranging from 70' tropical tree ferns to teeny plants sprouting from cracks in alpine rock. Several make wonderful low-maintenance foliage plants that thrive in moist woodsy humus-rich soil and lend a serene aura to a shady garden or landscape. Mulch if necessary to keep crowns from drying out.

Christmas Fern *Polystichum acrostichoides* remains evergreen in warmer zones, widely used for Christmas cut greenery. Shuttlecock of fronds with ladder-like parallel leathery dark green leaves is partially evergreen in our climate and provides good fall interest and emerges in very early spring to combine well with woodland flowers. Moist acidic soil, light shade, tolerates sun with sufficient moisture. Plant 2-3' apart. 18-24" tall. Northeastern native. Z3.

***6461**: 1/$3.00;*
***6462**: 3/$8.00;*
***6463**: 6/$14.50*

Hay-Scented Fern *Dennstaedtia punctilobula* Flourishes in bright shade in dry woodlands, even in sun on rocky slopes, stony fields. Spreads easily with creeping rhizomes from which a single frond sprouts every few inches, forming large colonies, often in poor soil. Delicate ferny foliage is yellow-green and has hairy surfaces which give it a soft nonreflective quality. Smells like (you guessed it) hay when crushed or dried. Makes an excellent ground cover for a troublesome spot, but can be invasive so be mindful where you locate it. Native to eastern N. America. 18-32" tall. Z3.

***6471**: 1/$3.00;*
***6472**: 3/$7.50;*
***6473**: 6/$14.00*



Japanese Painted Fern *Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' is the most decorative fern I know and surprisingly rugged for such a fancy plant. The Perennial Plant Association's Plant of the Year for 2004. Soft grey-green background with purplish wine-red stems and markings, accented by silvery-grey highlights. Needs partial shade, moist soil. Deciduous. 8-18" tall with spreading habit. Plant 8-12" apart. Z3.

***6481**: 1/$5.00;*
***6482**: 2/$9.00;*
***6483**: 3/$12.50*

Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina* tolerates more sun and drier soil than most ferns. Spreads easily from falling spores in moist soil. Works as a foundation planting on the shady sides of my house. Graceful bright green fronds are twice compound with very numerous leaflets resulting in a fine-textured classic fern appearance. Many variant forms, a few taller than 4' but most are under 2'. Z3.

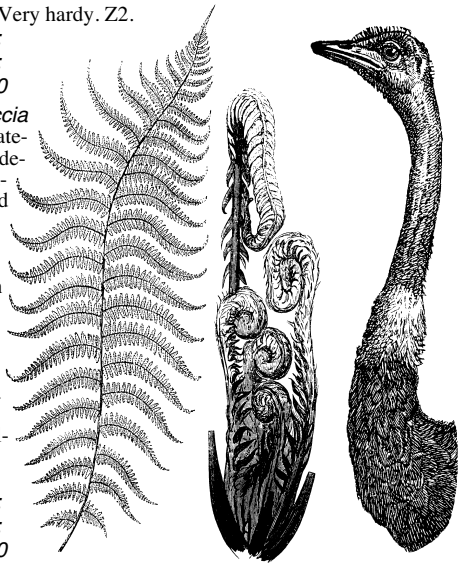
***6491**: 1/$3.00;*
***6492**: 3/$7.50;*
***6493**: 6/$13.50*

Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum pedatum* Delicate whorled form makes it one of my favorites. Glossy black stems curve up and then droop toward the ground with more narrow black stems growing in arches from them. Tiny distinct ginkgo-like green leaves line every stem. Plant 12" apart. Likes semi-shade or shade, moist soils. Native to eastern North America. Very hardy. Z2.

***6501**: 1/$3.50;*
***6502**: 3/$9.00;*
***6503**: 6/$16.50*

Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris* is a delicately textured bright green deciduous fern with a golden hue in the light. Frond tips curl like ostrich feathers. Likes open shade, woods and wet banks. Tolerates full sun in swampy areas. One of the largest hardy ferns, 3-7' tall, and spreads by underground runners, so give it room. Native to Europe, but well established and welcome in North America. Z2.

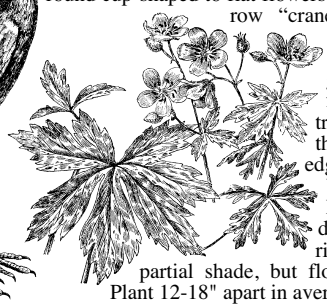
***6511**: 1/$3.50;*
***6512**: 3/$9.00;*
***6513**: 6/$16.50*



Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis* also attains giant proportions and, as one of the showiest garden ferns, makes a great focal point on a waterside or in a woodland. Soft and wavy deciduous lance-shaped light green fronds can reach 3' long. Sometimes called **Flowering Fern** because some of the fronds have brown spore cases on their tips which lend a decorative tassel-like appearance. Slow-growing plant gets to be 6' tall and over 9' wide in humus-rich moist-to-wet soil. Evolutionarily speaking, *Osmunda* is one of the oldest plant genera, native to North and South America and Asia. And some Royal Fern individuals are said to be 1000 years old. Z3.

***6521**: 1/$3.50;*
***6522**: 3/$9.00;*
***6523**: 6/$16.75*

***Geranium* Cranesbill** Name confusion may be a reason why this attractive easy-to-grow genus is not more popular: the tender bedding and indoor plant with big red flowers often called geranium is actually *Pelargonium*. True geraniums have deeply cut leaves, clusters of single round cup-shaped to flat flowers and distinctive long narrow "cranesbill" seedpods which flutter jauntily above the spreading foliage. Longevity, hardiness, long flowering period and attractive foliage make them useful for borders, edging or rock gardens. Very good ground cover. Foliage quickly forms dense clumps, and turns a rich red in fall. Tolerates partial shade, but flowers more in full sun. Plant 12-18" apart in average garden soil. Z4.

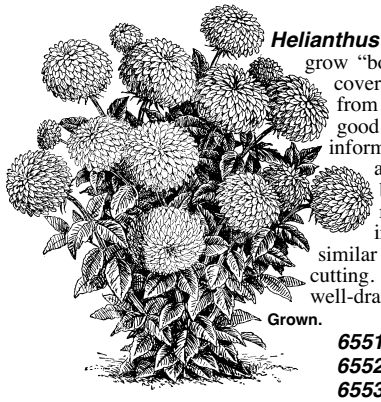


***G. cinereum* 'Ballerina'** Profuse pink flowers have dark purplish-red veins and eyes. Up close, each one is as pretty as a tutu. Long blooming on a mound of grey-green leaves. Only 4-6" tall and very compact and floriferous, perfect for rock gardens and edges.

***6531**: 1/$4.00;*
***6532**: 3/$11.00;*
***6533**: 6/$19.00*

***G.* 'Johnson's Blue'** Covered with 2" vivid bright blue flowers from late spring into midsummer. Mat-like spreading foliage. 12-24" tall. Made a low hedge covered with "periwinkle-blue button-sized blossoms" in grower Anne Hallee's beds last summer. **ME Grown.**

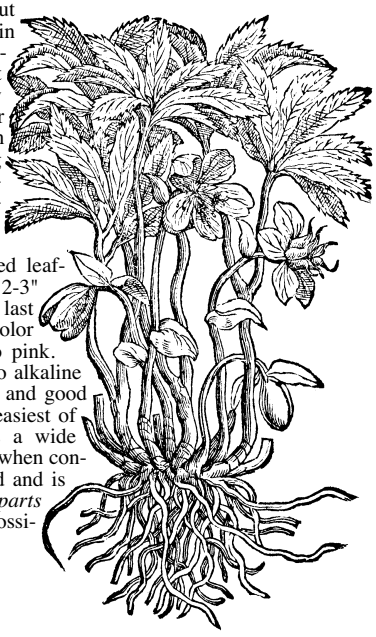
***6541**: 1/$3.50;*
***6542**: 3/$9.00;*
***6543**: 6/$16.50*



***Helianthus* Perennial Sunflower** Easy-to-grow "bombproof" vigorous upright plant covered with golden-yellow flowers from late July until frost. Over 5' tall, good for the back of the border or an informal accent. Anne Hallee grew these and we aren't sure of their variety, but the 4" blossoms have a single row of petals around a large prominent tufted center—looks very similar to 'Morning Sun'. Good for cutting. Will spread in full sun and moist well-drained soil. Plant 24" apart. Z3. **ME Grown.**

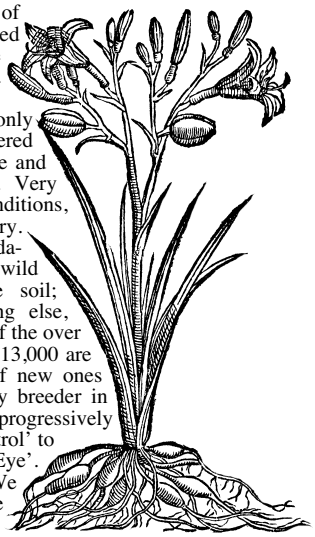
***6551**: 1/$3.75;*
***6552**: 3/$9.50;*
***6553**: 6/$17.75*

***Helleborus orientalis* Hellebore** or **Lenten Rose** Mysterious and slightly sinister, evergreen in all but the coldest climates and blooming in winter or very early spring, hellebore was named by the ancient Greeks and is native to the chalky soils of Macedonia, Asia Minor and the Caucasus. Mentioned in English as early as 1400 as having poisonous and medicinal properties, specifically for mental disease. Looks like a small shrub, 15-18" tall, with leathery green leaves palmately divided into many lobed leaflets. Saucer-shaped flowers, 2-3" across, appear in very early spring, last up to eight weeks, and vary in color from white and greenish-white to pink. Likes dappled shade and neutral to alkaline soil with plenty of organic matter and good drainage, but *H. orientalis* is the easiest of the genus to grow and tolerates a wide range of conditions. Will self-sow when content. Does not like to be disturbed and is dormant in summer. *Caution: all parts of the plant are poisonous*. Z4, possibly Z3.



***6561**: 1/$6.00;*
***6562**: 2/$10.50;*
***6563**: 3/$15.00*

***Hemerocallis* Daylily** produces a bush of narrow arched leaves topped with lily-shaped flowers from July to September and is the champion low-maintenance perennial. *Hemerocallis* means *beautiful day*, *day* referring to the fact that each flower lasts only a day, but since each scape (or stem) is covered with buds, bloom periods can be extensive and the long stems work well in bouquets. Very hardy, flourishes under a wide range of conditions, from full sun to shade, wet to dry. Trouble-free, chokes out weeds. For foundation planting, terrace, brookside, border or wild garden. Plant 12-18" apart in average soil; however daylilies, like almost everything else, benefit from a shovel or two of compost. Of the over 40,000 registered cultivars, approximately 13,000 are still in circulation. And with hundreds of new ones added each year (I'll bet there's a daylily breeder in your neck of the woods) the names get progressively more ridiculous from 'Canadian Border Patrol' to my current favorite 'Spacecoast Gator Eye'. Apparently all the good names are taken. We list more familiar varieties that are well-established in popularity.



If we run out of local supplies, where applicable, we will provide the same variety commercially grown. Z2.

***H. flava* Lemon Lily** or **Custard Lily** When you see the first daylilies of the season blooming by old houses, they're probably yellow and probably Lemon Lilies. Clear bright yellow star-shaped flowers. Old variety with a tart lemony scent. 24" tall. **ME Grown.**

***6571**: 1/$3.20;*
***6572**: 3/$8.00; **6573**: 6/$14.75*

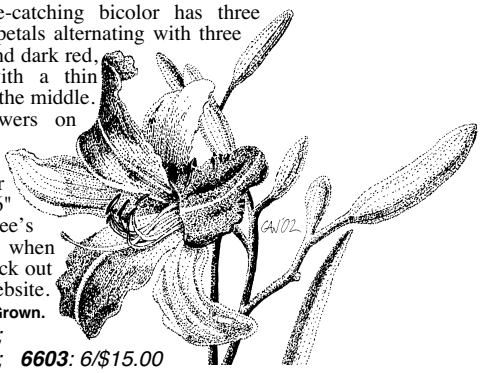
***H.* 'Bela Lugosi'** Last year OGS warehouse coordinator Jarrod Pooler, who takes his daylilies seriously, took me to task for making fun of the name. He insisted that the lavish showy 6" flowers are beautiful, not to be ridiculed. And he convinced me. Rich grapey-purple with a contrasting yellow-green eye. Midseason. 30" tall. I need to get into the 21st century and stop thinking of horror-movies when I hear 'Bela Lugosi' and start thinking of lush purple in the daylily bed.

***6581**: 1/$5.50;*
***6582**: 2/$10.00; **6583**: 3/$14.00*

***H.* 'Catherine Woodbury'** Blushed light lilac-pink blends into soft yellow-green throat, free-blooming midseason diploid. Tall beautiful fragrant award-winner. She would be gorgeous standing over 'Siloam Bye Lo' or 'Bela Lugosi'. 30-50" tall.

***6591**: 1/$3.20;*
***6592**: 3/$8.50; **6593**: 6/$15.00*

***H.* 'Frans Hals'** Eye-catching bicolor has three creamy yellow-orange petals alternating with three petals that are ruffled and dark red, almost bright rust, with a thin cantaloupe stripe down the middle. Many star-shaped flowers on each scape. Great way to blend "regular" daylilies into a color scheme with reds. 24-36" tall. Grower Anne Hallee's beds are magnificent when these are in bloom. Check out the photo on our website. Mid to late-season. **ME Grown.**



***6601**: 1/$3.20;*
***6602**: 3/$8.50; **6603**: 6/$15.00*

***H.* Renzo's Lily** Salvaged from the remains of a 1950s garden in Colorado, large, dramatic and well worth saving. We call it Renzo's after the man who found it. Clumps reach about 3' tall and flower scapes at least 4 1/2'. Flowers, burnished orange shading to dark red with yellow throats, are double in the most literal sense: a second miniature flower sits inside the 4-5" outer flower. I find it fascinating. Many flowers per scape start blooming in late July here and mine was still blooming on August 21. We've tentatively identified it as a Kwanso Double, one of a series known for indestructibility bred by hybridizer A.B. Stout at the NY Botanical Gardens in the 1940s. We're excited to be bringing it back. **ME Grown.**

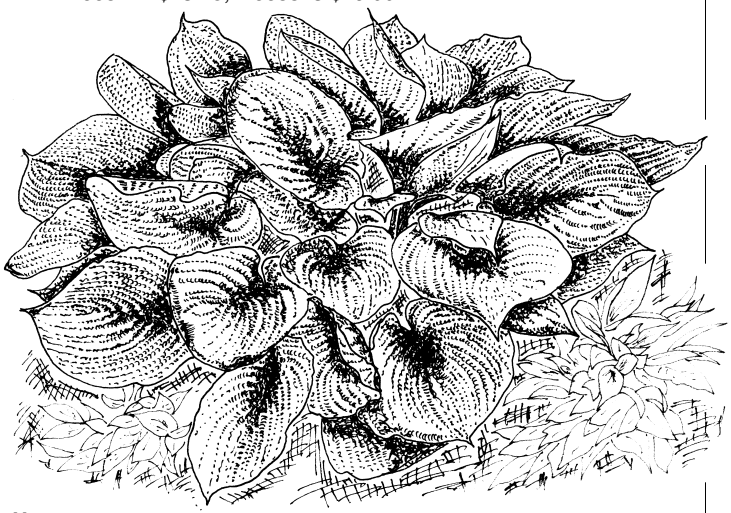
***6611**: 1/$5.00;*
***6612**: 2/$9.00; **6613**: 3/$12.50*

***H.* 'Siloam Bye Lo'** What a color! Rose with hints of both purple and orange that result in peachy-mauve rose. Color intensifies in eyezone and is highlighted by a yellow-green throat. Lightly ruffled 3 1/4" blossoms are almost round. Scapes have candelabra-type branches and, like all Siloams, many buds on each. I loved it in bouquets last summer. Midseason. 24" tall. Grown in Dixmont. **ME Grown.**

***6621**: 1/$5.50;*
***6622**: 2/$9.50; **6623**: 3/$14.10*

Hibiscus moscheutos **'Kopper King' Rose Mallow** Northern gardeners have discovered hibiscus as a key to tropical glamor. Fancy tall plant is one of the last to emerge in spring, making it a good companion for spring bulbs, then it grows like crazy in June to attain a 3-4' spike. Kopper King's copper is its burnished red-purple maple-like leaves. But its fanciest feature is excessive 12" white single flowers sporting bright rosy red-purple eyes. Blooms mid to late summer until frost. Fine specimen and several would create a stunning summer hedge. Plant 18-24" apart in full sun and average garden soil. Native to southern swampy margins and meadows, but tolerates dry soil once fully established. Since they emerge so late, be careful not to root them out during spring cleanup. Z4. This year's stock in 3" pot.

6631*: 1/$7.50;*
6632*: 2/$13.75;* ***6633****: 3/$19.00*



Hosta has bold foliage in orderly mounds with dependable sprays of fragrant bell-shaped flowers on tall stalks. Valuable and cherished low-maintenance border plant and shade-loving ground cover spring to frost. Formerly called **Plantain Lily** or **Funkia** but I have never heard either name. A friend described them as "so architectural!" With their varying colors, textures and clump sizes, hostas alone under trees can make a woodland garden. Hostas tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but need moisture. Those with blue and variegated leaves develop best color in shade. Deep shade gives fewer flowers. Plant 2-4' apart in rich soil with adequate humus. Divide every 4-5 years, or disturb clumps as little as possible; they improve with age as they spread and establish. Z3.

H. **'Eskimo Pie'** If this impulse-purchase is half as attractive as the catalog pictures, we are in for a treat. Sport of 'Northern Exposure' has wide rounded blue-green corrugated leaves with large light centers that fade to parchment-white. Best is the color gradation: irregular apple-green streaks appear to be painted along the corrugations, dividing the white from the blue-green. Clumps 20-24" tall with white flowers on slightly higher scapes.

6641*: 1/$9.00;*
6642*: 2/$17.00;*
6643*: 3/$24.00*

H. **'Golden Tiara'** Small somewhat narrow heart-shaped green leaves have chartreuse margins that turn gold in the sun. Compact and very full vigorous habit makes this gem excellent for edging. And Bianca St. Louis, their grower, explains their best feature: "They're really cute." 8-15" tall clumps, purple flowers on 24" scapes. **ME Grown.**

6651*: 1/$3.25;*
6652*: 3/$8.25;*
6653*: 6/$15.00*

H. **'Krossa Regal'** The Royal Horticultural Society handbook on hostas captured it for me: "Giant blue-grey hosta of unique poise. Leaves: narrowly wedge-shaped, blade wavy, powdery greyish blue-green carried on long upright leaf stalks.…Distinct…for its vase-shaped foliage" in clumps up to 40" high. Pale lilac flowers on stalks up to 5'. A big blue beauty noted for good performance under adverse conditions.

6661*: 1/$3.50;*
6662*: 3/$9.50;*
6663*: 6/$17.50*

H. sieboldiana **'Frances Williams'** Outstanding cultivar often called the best hosta. Leaf interiors rich blue-green with a wide variable golden-yellow edge. Clumps around 36" high. White flowers on shortish slightly pendant stalks harmonize with the foliage rather than stand above it.

6671*: 1/$3.50;*
6672*: 3/$9.50;*
6673*: 6/$17.00*

H. **'Sum and Substance'** Huge rounded chartreuse-green very thick seersuckered leaves become more golden in sunlight. Popular award winner has pale lilac flowers on leaning scapes. Said to have good slug resistance. Clumps become very large: to 36" tall and 60" across.

6681*: 1/$3.50;*
6682*: 3/$9.50;*
6683*: 6/$17.50*

H. undulata **'Albo Marginata'** Old favorite has green leaves with large wavy white edge, lavender blooms and incredibly rugged disposition. 12-18" tall. Two-for-one sale on small plants.

6691*: 2/$3.50;*
6692*: 6/$10.00;*
6693*: 12/$18.00*

Iris sibirica **Siberian Iris** All iris are characterized by beauty, six-petaled flowers (three **standards** above and three **falls** below) and sword-like leaves. Siberian iris produces delicate flowers in late June on thin stems excellent for cutting. Tall slender foliage looks good all summer. Tolerates most conditions, but performs best in rich moist acid soil. Plant 12-15" apart in full sun or partial shade. Give them room to spread, and divide clumps every few years.

When, at age 86, renowned Maine iris breeder Dr. Currier McEwen began to scale back his operation, Steve Jones was privileged to dig a large portion of McEwen's collection for his Fieldstone Gardens of Vassalboro. We are delighted that Steve is supplying us this year with three cultivars from that collection. Z3. **ME Grown.**

I. s. **'Creme Chantilly'** Wide petals make this Siberian look as lavish as a Japanese iris. Standards and falls both white and moderately frilly. Yellow throats merge subtly with the falls, producing the cream effect. McEwen introduction, 1981.

6701*: 1/$5.75;*
6702*: 2/$10.50;*
6703*: 3/$14.50*

I. s. **'Lady of Quality'** During a heavenly walk through the Fieldstone Gardens irises while a pending thunderstorm brewed up greenish evening light, this McEwen introduction stood out amidst all the beauties. Remarkable shade of hazy light blue petals with a slight silver edge and darker throat. Each fall has a small yellow blaze accented with white. 30" tall.

6711*: 1/$5.75;*
6712*: 2/$10.50;*
6713*: 3/$14.00*

I. s. **'Pink Haze'** An absolute stunner, one of the best I saw. Light lavender with a pinkish-mauve cast. Our web photo looks lavender, but in real light it was definitely pinky. And gorgeous. 36" tall.

6721*: 1/$5.75;*
6722*: 2/$10.50;*
6723*: 3/$14.50*

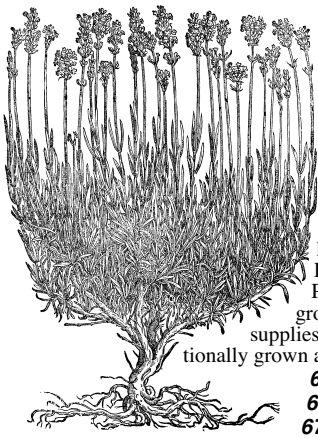
Currier McEwen

At Seaways Gardens, overlooking the sound in S. Harpswell, ME, around 1968 Currier McEwen crossed two blue Siberian irises and got some yellow offspring. He selected 'Butter and Sugar', the first yellow Siberian ever registered with the American Iris Society, establishing him both as bitten by the hybridizing bug and as a respected iris breeder.

Around that time McEwen retired to Seaways and to decades of serious hybridization where every year he made thousands of crosses and introduced 3-6 new cultivars, including many familiar ones like 'Ruffled Velvet' and 'Orville Fay'. By age 91, he was crossing "only" 400 per year.

Incredibly, iris breeding was a sideline. Born in 1902, he was a physician, developed the specialty of rheumatology, and was the youngest person ever to be a dean of the NYU School of Medicine. In 1939 he met with Albert Einstein arranging to help several Jewish doctors leave Germany. After his "retirement" to Maine he maintained a medical practice in Brunswick.

He died at 101 and was said to be an old man for only three weeks of his life. Those who knew him praise the way he found time to share his bright, optimistic, welcoming, indomitable spirit with everyone he met.



Lavandula angustifolia **Lavender 'Munstead'** blooms in spires of lavender-blue 15-18" tall flowers treasured for their scent. Valued for dried arrangements, potpourri, herb bundles; nice border, rockery, slope, edging or specimen plant. Aroma soothes the nervous system and perfumes the linen closet. Blooms all summer. Aromatic grey-green lanceolate foliage, bushy habit. Prune woody stems in spring. Likes full sun; demands good drainage. Plant 12-18" apart. Still organically grown by Blessed Maine Herb Farm. If supplies run short we will substitute conventionally grown at a reduced price. Z4. **ME Grown.**

6731*: 1/$5.50;*
6732*: 2/$10.50;*
6733*: 3/$14.50*

Liatris spicata **Blazing Star** or **Gayfeather** grows stiff dense "bottlebrush" spikes of magenta-purple flowers, from July to September, which open from the top down. Flowers are good for cutting; leave 1/3 of stem on plant. The foliage is fine and grass-like. Hardy, tolerates a broad range of growing conditions, but not drought. 20-30" tall. Plant 3" deep, 8-12" apart, in well-drained fertile soil. Z3.

6741*: 10/$2.75;*
6742*: 20/$4.75;*
6743*: 50/$9.50*

Lilium **Lilies** Queen of the perennial border, fabulously showy and surprisingly easy to grow. Breeders have been working on them for thousands of years and continue to develop new species and scores of new cultivars every year. It's confusing terrain, but briefly: **Asiatic** types bloom early, are a bit smaller (under 4'), than Orientals and often have their star-shaped blossoms facing upward. **Oriental** strains tend to be taller (may need staking), bloom later, with their very fragrant and flamboyant blossoms slightly pendant on tiny stems off the main stem. **Trumpets** have long trumpet-shaped blooms, resemble so-called Easter lilies, are tall and late. **Tigers** have petals that are tightly curved back, hairy stems and bulbils where the leaf meets the stem.

Excellent as bedding plants or cutflowers, good as specimens or in solid masses. The lily leaf beetle is making its way into central Maine and may be a problem in your area. They have not been very bad in our beds. See sidebar for some details. Lilies prefer light shade to prolong summer blooms and to keep the bulbs cool. Mulch in full sun. Plant bulbs 6-8" deep, 6" apart in rich well-drained soil, slightly acid with good humus content. Z3.

L. **'Centerfold'** Asiatic, 34" Classy looking, despite the name. White with brushed maroon-purple centers. Colors evoke Acidanthera. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

6751*: 2/$3.00;*
6752*: 6/$8.00;*
6753*: 12/$14.50*

Lily leaf beetle (*Liliocerис lilii*) has made its way up to us from the Boston area. I first heard of them at the 2005 Tree Sale and they were in my beds a few weeks later. Adults, small attractive bright red beetles, overwinter in soil and plant debris and emerge in early spring to munch, mate and lay dull-orange tiny eggs in irregular rows on the undersides of leaves. Larvae hatch in about a week and feed for 16-24 days on leaves of lilies (not daylilies), fritillaria, and nightshades. The larvae are the real nuisance: voracious eaters, they carry their excrement on their backs to deter predators and it makes them mighty unappealing. Then they drop to the ground and pupate in cocoons and emerge in about 25 days as adults.

We've had good results picking the first flush of adults and dropping them in soapy water and have seen very few larvae. Leaves had holes in them but the damage was nothing like the denuded stalks that some gardeners described. Apparently standard organic insecticides are effective on them, too.

L. **'Grand Cru'** Asiatic, 38" Bright yellow with hot red-wine markings near the throat. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

6761*: 2/$2.90;*
6762*: 6/$7.75;*
6763*: 12/$14.50*

L. **'Monte Negro'** Asiatic, 42" Stir a dab of dark chocolate into fire engine red and you've got the intense deep color of 'Monte Negro'. Early: the first lily to bloom in my garden. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

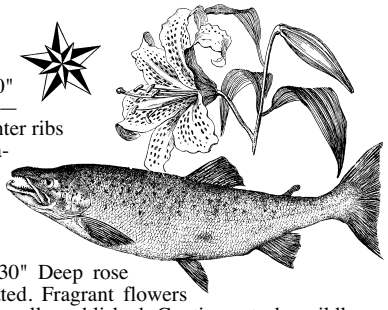
6771*: 2/$2.90;*
6772*: 6/$7.75;*
6773*: 12/$14.25*

L. **'Sorbet'** Asiatic, 32" White petals have tips brushed with hot pink and centers dotted liberally dotted with burgundy-pink. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

6781*: 2/$2.90;*
6782*: 6/$7.75;*
6783*: 12/$14.25*

L. **'Casa Blanca'** Oriental, 40-44" (but I've seen them blooming from 3-8'). Pure white with textured white specks, and bobbing russet anthers. Absolutely gorgeous and their alluring fragrance fills the garden. Always one of our most popular offerings. 2-2 1/4" bulbs.

6791*: 1/$3.00;*
6792*: 3/$8.00;*
6793*: 6/$14.50*



L. **'Salmon Star'** Oriental, 20" Very light pink—almost white—dotted with bright pink and center ribs blushed with coral-salmon. Fragrant. 1 3/4" bulbs.

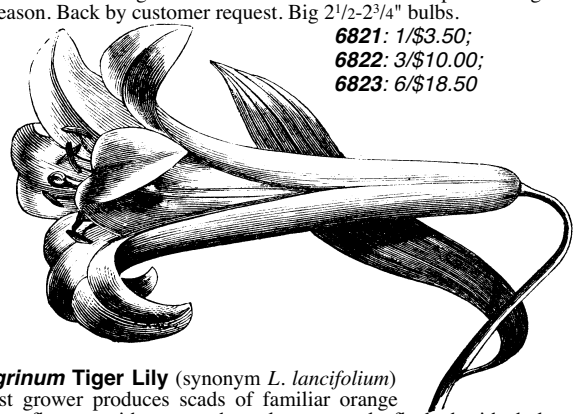
6801*: 1/$2.25;*
6802*: 3/$5.25;*
6803*: 6/$10.00*

L. **'Stargazer'** Oriental, 24-30" Deep rose with narrow white edge, spotted. Fragrant flowers are huge when plants become well established. Continues to be wildly and deservedly popular. 2-2 1/4" bulbs.

6811*: 2/$3.00;*
6812*: 6/$8.00;*
6813*: 12/$14.25*

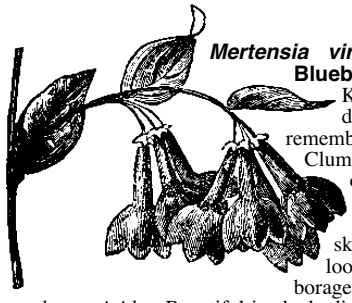
L. **'African Queen'** Trumpet, 40" and taller. Tawny light orange with bronze exteriors. Long flowers have somewhat recurved petals. Fragrant and late season. Back by customer request. Big 2 1/2-2 3/4" bulbs.

6821*: 1/$3.50;*
6822*: 3/$10.00;*
6823*: 6/$18.50*



L. tigrinum **Tiger Lily** (synonym *L. lancifolium*) Robust grower produces scads of familiar orange nodding flowers with recurved petals generously flecked with dark purple dots, and prominent rusty-red anthers. Distinguished by purplish-black bulbils in the leaf axils along the stem. When the plant is happy, the bulbils will drop and sprout baby lilies by the score. A few shovels of compost keep my thriving plantation of tiger lilies happy year after year. Blooms in August in central Maine. 2-5' tall. Z2. 1 1/2" bulbs.

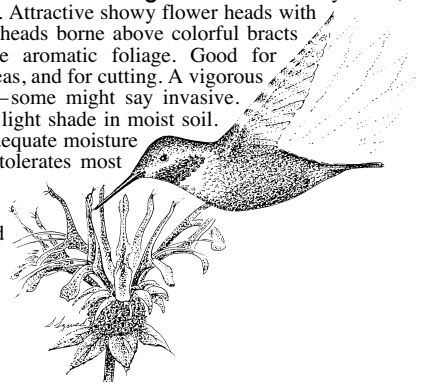
6831*: 2/$3.00;*
6832*: 6/$8.00;*
6833*: 12/$14.75*



Mertensia virginica **Bluebells** or **Virginia Bluebells** or **Virginia Cowslip** When Kip brought bluebells into the office during daffodil bloom time last year, I remembered what a spring treat they are. Clump-forming plant with erect stems and oval veined leaves bears clusters of nodding bell-shaped flowers on terminal cymes. Pink buds open to sky-blue or purple-blue flowers which look a lot like those of Pulmonaria or borage. In fact, another name is *M. pulmonarioides*. Beautiful in shade displays with ferns, Dicentra and Scilla. Prefer moist lowlands and acid woodsy soil in part shade. 18-24" tall. Dormant in summer. Native to eastern North America. Z3.

6841*: 1/$3.25;*
6842*: 3/$8.00;*
6843*: 6/$15.00*

Monarda didyma **Bee Balm** or **Oswego Tea** is loved by bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Attractive showy flower heads with tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Coarse aromatic foliage. Good for borders, naturalized in wet areas, and for cutting. A vigorous member of the mint family—some might say invasive. Plant crowns 16-20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. Z3.



M. **'Jacob Cline'** Very large 5" red flowers, good vigor and mildew resistance. Now embraced in the nursery trade as "the best red." 3-5' tall.

6851*: 1/$4.25;*
6852*: 3/$10.75;*
6853*: 6/$19.50*

M. **'Prairie Night'** Also called ***Prärienacht***. Bright lilac-purple with red-tinged bracts. 3-4' tall.

6861*: 1/$3.50;*
6862*: 3/$9.50;*
6863*: 6/$18.00*

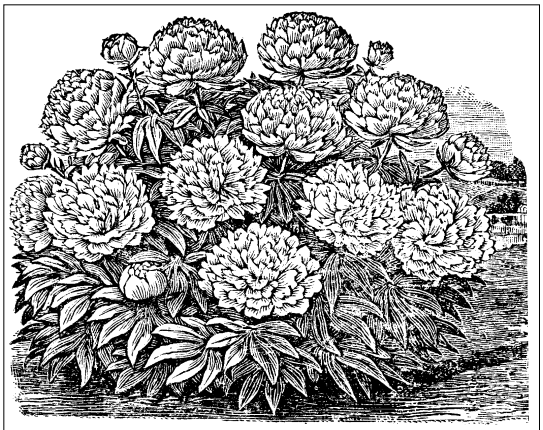
Pæonia lactiflora **Garden Peony** or **Chinese Peony** Red shoots appear in spring and form a bushy clump, about 3x3', of lustrous dark green deeply lobed foliage. Fat spherical buds on sturdy stems above the foliage gradually open into large beautiful flowers from late spring to early summer. (Ants help the buds to open so don't discourage their presence.) Huge flowers are stunning on the bush and wonderful when cut. Most are fully double but the Japanese-type features a single round of petals that frames a clump of different petals inside. If you catch flower buds when they are just marshmallow soft, they can be cut and stored for weeks in the fridge for bouquets later. May take up to 3 to 5 years to establish before blooming and resents being disturbed. Wait several years, until the plants have many stems, before attempting to divide. Stock has 2-3 eyes. Z3.

P. l. **'Duchess de Nemours'** Large fragrant double white flowers on sturdy stems. Outstanding vigor and habit. Mine has remained upright without staking until this year, its ninth, it was weighed down by 8-10 big blossoms per stem. Dark green leaves. Early season. 30-36" tall.

6871*: 1/$7.50;*
6872*: 2/$13.00;*
6873*: 3/$18.00*

P. l. **'Karl Rosenfield'** Large bright fuchsia-red fully double blooms. Mild fragrance, excellent for cutting. Some people even dry them. Midseason. 28-33" tall.

6881*: 1/$6.50;*
6882*: 2/$11.00;*
6883*: 3/$15.50*



Garden Peonies Plant 2-3' apart with the eyes (where the growth shoots meet the root) no more than 1-1½" below the surface in well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Peonies are extremely long-lived so amend the soil richly when you plant. Compost, very well-rotted manure, bone meal and azomite are all recommended. After that they needing only a bit of weeding and feeding to flourish.

Mature plants often need staking or tying because flowers and buds can be quite heavy. For big plants, I've been using a chicken-wire method that Mary Fowler recommended. Cut a flat circle of chicken wire 2 or 3' in diameter and place it on the shoots when they are 8-10" tall. The shoots lift the wire, grow through it and use it for an invisible support.

Remove spent flowers after blooming, then cut dead foliage to near ground level in fall. Plant along the driveway; a heavy snowbank doesn't bother them.

Tree Peonies tolerate moist soils but require good drainage. Plants thrive in full sun but it may fade flower color. Plant graft union 2-3" below soil level, in rich well-drained soil. Don't prune except for removing dead wood in spring after plants have leafed out.

P. l. **'Primavera'** First yellow garden peony on our list! Japanese type with a full ball of yellow petals surrounded by a collar of single creamy white petals. Strong stems, excellent for cutting. Midseason. 28" tall.

6891*: 1/$12.50;*
6892*: 2/$22.00;*
6893*: 3/$31.00*

P. l. **'Shirley Temple'** Fully double light rose-pink fades to lighter pink and buff white. Fragrant. Early; one of the first peonies to bloom. 28-32" tall.

6901*: 1/$8.00;*
6902*: 2/$13.75;*
6903*: 3/$19.50*

Pæonia suffruticosa **Japanese Tree Peony** or **Moutan** is expensive, but as garden writer Peter Coats says, "It is worthwhile to sell everything one possesses to buy pæonies, and to dig up everything else in the garden to make room for them." A fashion craze in China by the 7th century, tree peonies appear in poets' songs and as decorative motifs in architecture, porcelain and fabric. 19th century botanical explorer Robert Fortune reported a specimen outside Shanghai that produced 300-400 flowers a year. Deciduous shrub with deeply cut narrow-lobed medium green foliage forms many (though probably fewer than 300 in its first century) large stunning flowers in early June, before Garden Peony. Semi-double extravagantly big flowers with loose satiny petals. Full sun promotes fastest growth but fades flowers which do best in dappled shade; fanatics shade plants with umbrellas while they are flowering. 48-60" tall. 1-yr. plants may need 2-3 years to mature before blooming begins. Z4.

P. s. **'Hanakisoi' Tree Peony** apricot pink with soft pink petal edge. *Hana* is Japanese for flower and *Hanakisoi* means competition-grade flower.

6911*: 1/$22.00;*
6912*: 2/$39.00;*
6913*: 3/$58.00*

P. s. **'Kinkaku' Tree Peony** fully double yellow petals have orange edges giving an overall orange effect. *Kinkaku* refers to the Golden Temple of Nara.

6921*: 1/$20.00;*
6922*: 2/$35.00;*
6923*: 3/$48.00*

P. s. **Red Tree Peony**

6931*: 1/$15.50;*
6932*: 2/$26.00;*
6933*: 3/$36.00*

P. s. **Violet Tree Peony**

6941*: 1/$16.00;*
6942*: 2/$29.00;*
6943*: 3/$37.00*

Perovskia atriplicifolia **Russian Sage** blossoms in midsummer with slender airy spires of lavender-blue tubular flowers. Finely divided grey leaves are aromatic when crushed. 1995 PPA Plant of the Year. Low-maintenance background or filler beautiful with roses or whites and blues. Perovskia has one of the longest bloom times of any blue-flowered plant. Upright habit, semi-woody shrub, emerges slowly in spring; cut back after frost. Tolerates drought, loves heat and full sun, can't bear standing water. 3-4' tall. Likes to spread out once it gets established; plant 24-36" apart. I suspect that Zone 4 reports of winterkill are from poor drainage rather than cold, so a cautious Z4.

6951*: 1/$3.75;*
6952*: 3/$9.50;*
6953*: 6/$17.75*

***Phlox paniculata* Garden Phlox** produces large spreading clusters of fragrant showy long-blooming flowers in mid to late summer when so many blooms are fading, and produces delicate satiny panicles when so many blooms are coarse. Wonderful color and fragrance for accents, border or naturalized area. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Essential component of late-summer wedding bouquets. Extend flowering season by watering and prompt deadheading. Prefers humus-rich soil that stays cool and moist in summer and regular sidedressing. Plant 2' apart in full sun to partial shade. Z3.

***P.* 'Bright Eyes'** Each individual flower is delicate shell-pink with a vibrant neon-pink eye. Large 4-5" flower clusters light up a bed on overcast days. Very fragrant, too. Plants around 36" tall have a tidy comparatively compact habit. Deep red bronzy wine-colored foliage on their new growth and buds makes the plants decorative from mid-June onward. **ME Grown.**

***6961**: 1/$3.00;*
***6962**: 3/$8.00;*
***6963**: 6/$15.00*

***P.* 'David'** White flowers cover the plant so completely with enormous (6x7") and fragrant blooms that it was voted the PPA Plant of the Year for 2002. 30-42" tall.

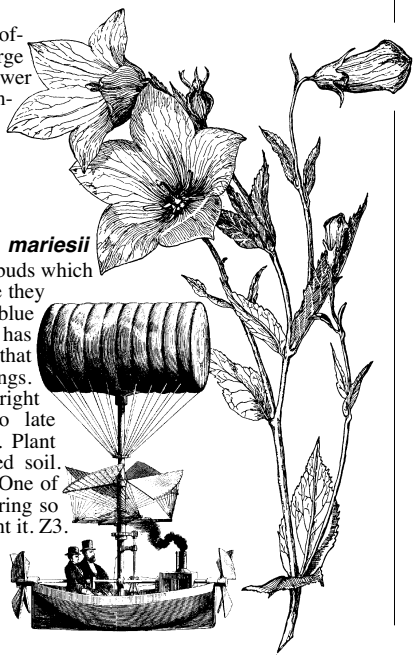
***6971**: 1/$3.00;*
***6972**: 3/$8.25;*
***6973**: 6/$15.50*

***P.* 'Orange Perfection'** Vigorous grower is brilliant orange with slightly darker eye. Give the phlox bed a new twist; looks striking with white, red or pink. 36".

***6981**: 1/$3.00;*
***6982**: 3/$8.25;*
***6983**: 6/$15.75*

***P.* 'Starfire'** Reliable old favorite often considered the best red. Large (6x6") abundant cherry-red flower clusters are fragrant from midsummer into fall. 25-36".

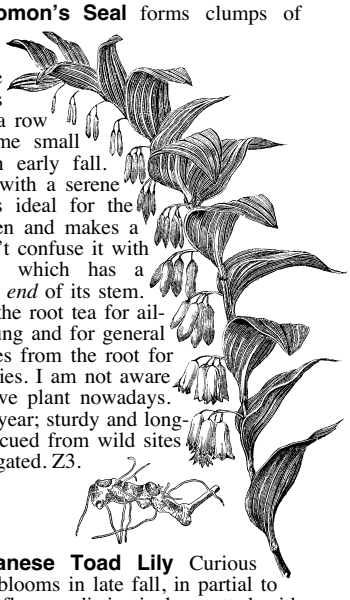
***6991**: 1/$3.00;*
***6992**: 3/$8.25;*
***6993**: 6/$15.50*



***Platycodon grandiflorus* var. *mariesii* Balloon Flower** is named for its buds which really do swell like balloons before they burst into bell-like single violet-blue flowers. Clump-forming plant has dark green oval-to-narrow leaves that look good in most settings. Fascinating balloons appear on upright stems above the foliage mid to late summer and are good for cutting. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. Sometimes self-sows. 12-24" tall. One of the last perennials to emerge in spring so be careful not to disrupt or overplant it. Z3.

***7011**: 1/$2.90;*
***7012**: 3/$7.50;*
***7013**: 6/$13.50*

***Polygonatum biflorum* Solomon's Seal** forms clumps of graceful arching stems about 3' long with long narrow alternate leaves. Greenish-white bell-shaped tubular flowers dangle from the stems in a row in late spring, and become small round blue-black fruits in early fall. Shade- and moisture-loving, with a serene habit, Solomon's Seal is ideal for the shade or woodland garden and makes a good foil for ferns. Don't confuse it with False Solomon's Seal which has a plume-like flower at the *end* of its stem. Native Americans used the root tea for ailments of stomach and lung and for general debility, and used washes from the root for all kinds of external injuries. I am not aware of local herbalists using this native plant nowadays. Sends up a few more stems every year; sturdy and long-lived. Native eastern wild plant, rescued from wild sites about to be developed, and nursery propagated. Z3.



***7021**: 1/$3.50;*
***7022**: 3/$9.00;*
***7023**: 6/$16.00*

***Tricyrtis hirta* Toad Lily** or **Japanese Toad Lily** Curious woodland plant spreads by runners and blooms in late fall, in partial to full shade. Multiple small white starry flowers distinctively spotted with purple on gently arching stems have pointed petals that radiate out from the center and curve back. Showy calyx with three sepals has a unique and distinctive look. Plant where you can enjoy them nearby, not very showy at a distance. 20-28" tall plant has very fuzzy (*hirta* means hairy) leaves. Native to Japan. Z4.

***7031**: 1/$2.90;*
***7032**: 3/$7.50;*
***7033**: 6/$14.00*

***Trillium erectum* Red Trillium** or **Wakerobin** or **Stinking Benjamin** Our local wildflower preserve features huge patches of red trillium blooming in late April, a spectacular and pleasing sight. All the descriptions mention a bad smell, but we don't get the "stinking" part, detecting only a faint oceany hint of tidal flats. Maroon blossom with three petals and three sepals sits erect on a short stem above the three oval leaves in a single whorl. Grows in moist rich woods, full or part shade, from Nova Scotia to the mountains of Georgia, west into Michigan. Nursery-propagated stock. Z4.

***7041**: 1/$3.25;*
***7042**: 3/$8.00;*
***7043**: 6/$15.00*

***Veronica spicata* 'Sunny Border Blue' Speedwell** is sometimes described as the best veronica. 1993 PPA Perennial of the Year. Gentian-blue flowers from early summer into autumn. Multiple erect flower spikes, each thickly covered with tiny tubular blossoms, are 18-20" tall. Clump-forming plant has narrow glossy deep green finely serrated leaves. Excellent addition to border or rockery. Good for cutting. Easy to grow in good well-drained soil, full to partial sun. If I were building a garden this year I would combine the blues—Geranium, Hyssop, Lavender, Platycodon, Perovskia and this one—with white 'David' phlox. Wouldn't that be cool in August? Z3.

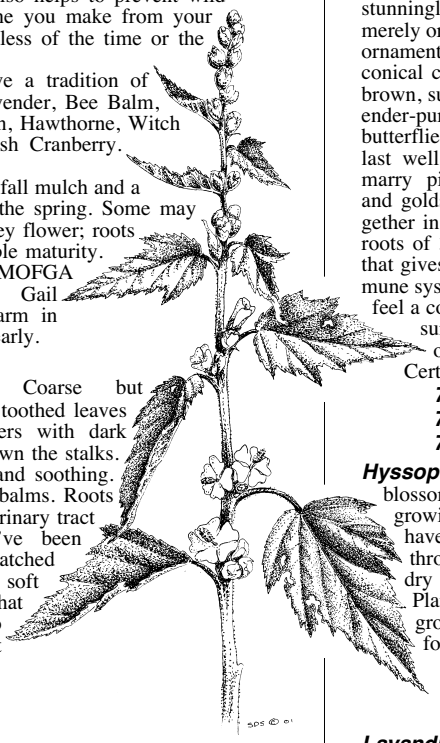
***7051**: 1/$3.25;*
***7052**: 3/$8.50;*
***7053**: 6/$16.00*

Perennial Medicinal Plants

Growing medicinal plants in your own garden gives you the opportunity to come to know their personalities, forms, uses and spirits. It also helps to prevent wild plants from being overharvested. Medicine you make from your plants returns you to your garden, regardless of the time or the place that you use it.

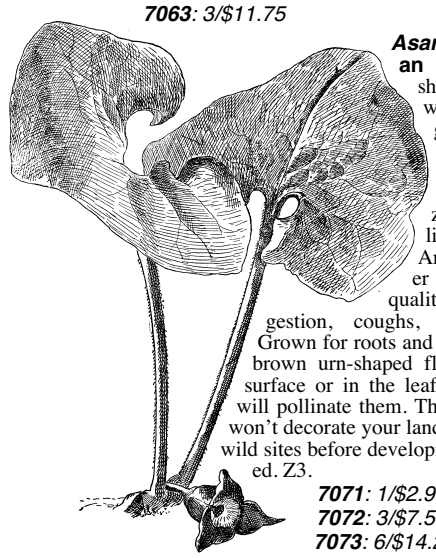
Many of the other plants we list have a tradition of medicinal use as well. These include Lavender, Bee Balm, Peony, Rose, Elder, Hops, Ginkgo, Linden, Hawthorne, Witch Hazel, Blueberry, Cranberry and Highbush Cranberry. (Index on p. 59.)

Like most perennials, these appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring. Some may take a year or more to establish before they flower; roots often take several years to reach harvestable maturity. The organic listings are certified by MOFGA Certification Services and grown by Gail Edwards of the Blessed Maine Herb Farm in Athens. Supplies may be limited, so order early.



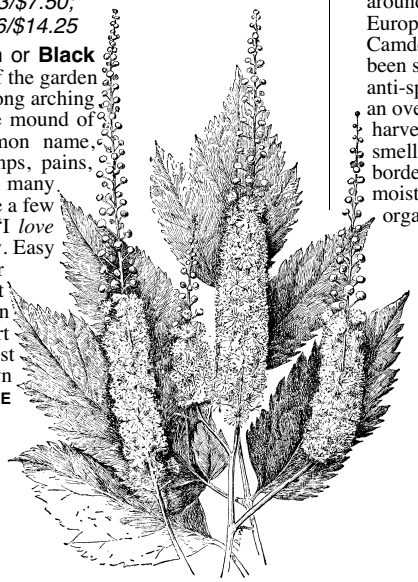
Althaea officinalis **Marshmallow** Coarse but ornamental plant grows 5-8' tall with big toothed leaves 4-6" across. Small light lavender flowers with dark purple-lavender stamens appear up and down the stalks. All parts of the plant are mucilagenous and soothing. Flowers and leaves suitable for teas and balms. Roots soothe any irritated membrane: good for urinary tract infections, sore throats, congestion. I've been attracted to Marshmallow ever since I watched charismatic herbalist Deb Soule rub its soft velvety leaf against her cheek to explain that it's good in tea mixtures when you want to add mothering. Plant 1-2' apart in light moist soil, full sun. Z4. **ME Grown.**

***7061**: 1/$4.75;*
***7062**: 2/$8.50;*
***7063**: 3/$11.75*



Asarum canadense **Canadian Wild Ginger** Heart-shaped leaves up to 7" wide will spread into a beautiful groundcover 6-12" tall if given humus, shade and plenty of moisture. Leaves are large and slightly fuzzy, not small and glossy like the European species. Aromatic roots used like other gingers for their warming qualities and for soothing indigestion, coughs, colds, motion sickness. Grown for roots and foliage. The small reddish-brown urn-shaped flowers grow near the soil surface or in the leaf mold so crawling insects will pollinate them. They're fun to search for but won't decorate your landscape. Plants rescued from wild sites before development and nursery propagated. Z3.

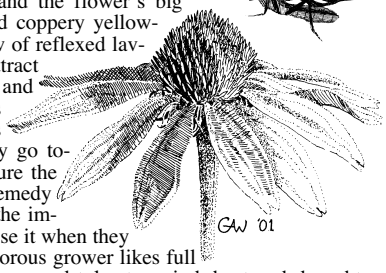
***7071**: 1/$2.90;*
***7072**: 3/$7.50;*
***7073**: 6/$14.25*



Cimicifuga racemosa **Black Cohosh** or **Black Snakeroot** flourishes in the wilder part of the garden or shady border. In late July and August, long arching racemes of creamy flowers rise above the mound of compound foliage, hence another common name, **Fairy Candles**. Anti-spasmodic for cramps, pains, cramped nerves and emotions, included in many peri-menopausal formulas. I've heard quite a few women my age say rather passionately, "I *love* this plant!" Diuretic and anti-inflammatory. Easy to grow, long-lived, needs division or harvest every 4-5 years. 36-72" tall. Plant 30-36" apart in rich moist soil high in humus. Good in boggy spots. Prefers part shade, but tolerates full sun in deep moist soil. We are happy to list organically grown black cohosh for the first time ever. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***7081**: 1/$5.75;*
***7082**: 2/$10.00;*
***7083**: 3/$14.25*

Echinacea purpurea **Purple Coneflower** Some year we may offer a named ornamental strain of Echinacea, but Gail Edwards' organically grown medicinal strain is stunningly beautiful and strikes me as more valuable than a merely ornamental cultivar, even if you use it only for ornament. *Echinos* means spiny and the flower's big conical centers are very spiny and coppery yellow-brown, surrounded by a single row of reflexed lavender-purple petals. Flowers attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last well when cut. Their colors marry pinks, oranges, lavenders and golds that wouldn't ordinarily go together in beds or bouquets. Tincture the roots of 3-year-old plants for a remedy that gives an immediate boost to the immune system. That's why people use it when they feel a cold or flu coming on. Vigorous grower likes full sun and sandy loam, self-sows and tolerates wind, heat and drought once established. 30-48" tall. Plant 20-30" apart in light soil. Certified organic. Z3. **ME Grown.**

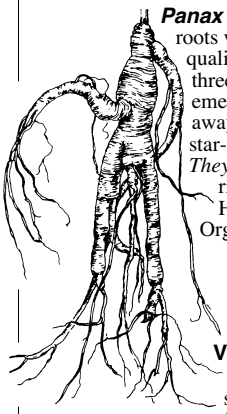


***7091**: 1/$5.75;*
***7092**: 2/$10.00;*
***7093**: 3/$14.25*

Hyssopus officinalis **Hyssop** Blue-violet flowers on erect stalks blossom June-September and are wonderfully ornamental. Well-worth growing for an aromatic low hedge or in the border even if you don't have an herb garden. Bees love it. Leaf infusions long used for sore throats and stomach troubles, flower spikes in cough syrups. Thrives in dry soil, useful on slopes and any sunny difficult place. 12-20" tall. Plant 12-24" apart in poor soil, full sun to light shade. Organically grown. We apologize for last year's crop failure and are trying again for 2007. Z3. **ME Grown.**

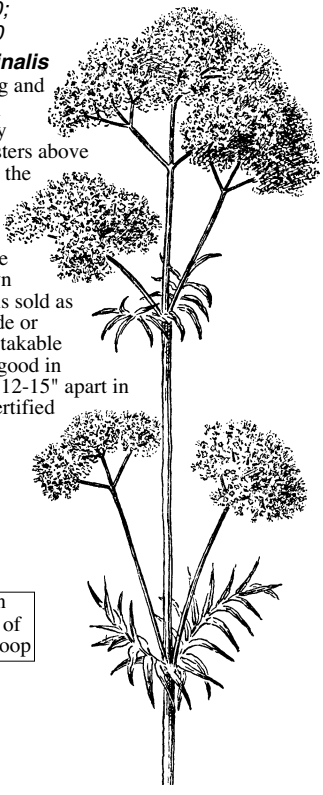
***7101**: 1/$5.75;*
***7102**: 2/$10.00;*
***7103**: 3/$14.25*

Lavandula **Lavender** See #**6731-3**.



Panax quinquefolius **American Ginseng** is grown for its roots which are much valued for their tonifying and restorative qualities. Stems emerge each spring and form a whorl of three coarsely toothed leaves. Gail says when you see how it emerges from the soil, like a curled-up claw, you know right away that it's powerful. Grows 1-3' tall. Small white star-shaped flowers in summer followed by a bright red fruit. *They are fussy about location*. Need 90% shade and deep rich moist well-drained soil in a hardwoods-type habitat. Harvest at least four- and preferably six-year-old roots. Organically grown tiny one-year-old rootlets. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***7111**: 1/$8.50;*
***7112**: 2/$15.00;*
***7113**: 3/$21.00*



Valeriana officinalis **Valerian** is a strong and upright plant with small white or rosy flowers in flat clusters above pinnate leaves. We see it blooming by the roadsides in early summer, especially around the midcoast. I'm told that European valerians were brought to Camden gardens and escaped and have been spreading ever since. Well-known anti-spasmodic, nervine and sedative is sold as an over-the-counter tranquilizer. Divide or harvest thick rootstock with its unmistakable smell every 4-5 years. Easy to grow, good in border or herb garden. 2-4' tall. Plant 12-15" apart in moist well-drained soil in full sun. Certified organic. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***7121**: 1/$5.75;*
***7122**: 2/$10.00;*
***7123**: 3/$14.25*

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Bundle Size	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
1384	American Plum		10				♦			♦	
2028	American Plum	❁					♦				
2260	Lowbush Blueberry	❁		♦		♦	♦				♦
2280ff	Highbush Blueberry	❁		♦			♦			♦	
2370ff	Grapes	❁					♦	♦			
2577	Anne Raspberry		10				♦			♦	
2660-1	Killarney Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	
2685-6	Nova Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	♦
2689	Polana Raspberry		10				♦			♦	
2690-1	Prelude Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	♦
2700	Royalty Purple Raspberry		10				♦			♦	
2750	Fort Kent King	❁	3				♦			♦	♦
2827ff	Kiwi	❁					♦	♦			
2890	American Cranberry	❁	10	♦							♦
2930	Regent Juneberry			♦	♦	♦	♦				
3000	Cornelian Cherry	❁			♦		♦				
3030	Cascade Hops		3					♦			
3034	Willamette Hops		3					♦			
3082	Beach Plum	❁				♦	♦			♦	
3100	Nanking Cherry	❁					♦			♦	
3135ff	Elderberry	❁		♦			♦			♦	
3245	Highbush Cranberry	❁		♦	♦		♦			♦	
3270	Balsam Fir		5		♦	♦	♦			♦	
3282	White Cedar	❁		♦			♦				
3325	American Larch	❁					♦				
3350	Dawn Redwood	❁		♦			♦		♦		
3400	Norway Spruce		5				♦		♦	♦	
3420	Colorado Blue Spruce		5				♦		♦	♦	
3503	Mugo Pine		5				♦			♦	
3530	Red Pine		5			♦	♦				
3590	American Arborvitae		5	♦	♦		♦			♦	
3620	Eastern Hemlock		5				♦			♦	
3760	American Chestnut	❁					♦		♦		
3785	American Hazelnut	❁					♦			♦	
3799	Precocious Hazelbert	❁					♦			♦	
3805	Butternut	❁					♦				
3815	Black Walnut	❁					♦		♦		
3985	Red Maple	❁		♦			♦		♦		
3990	Sugar Maple	❁					♦		♦		
4017	Paper Birch clump	❁					♦		♦		
4030	Northern Catalpa	❁							♦		
4065	Purple Beech	❁							♦		
4090	Ginkgo	❁							♦		
4114	Tulip Tree	❁							♦		
4150	Swamp White Oak			♦			♦		♦		
4170	Red Oak	❁				♦	♦		♦		
4190	Cape Rosier Willow	❁		♦							
4195	Niobe Weeping Willow	❁		♦					♦		
4200	Snake Willow	❁		♦					♦		
4205	American Linden	❁					♦		♦		
4215	Valley Forge Elm	❁							♦		
4240	Redbud	❁			♦				♦		
4245	Fringe tree	❁		♦			♦		♦		
4255	Pagoda Dogwood	❁			♦		♦				
4332	Witch Hazel	❁		♦	♦		♦				
4341	Seven-son Flower	❁							♦		
4553ff	Crabapple	❁					♦		♦		
4894	Pink Pussy Willow	❁		♦							
4901	Korean Mountain Ash	❁					♦		♦		
4903	Showy Mountain Ash	❁					♦		♦		
4912	Japanese Tree Lilac					♦			♦		
4923	Camperdown Elm	❁							♦		
4936	Bottlebrush Buckeye				♦					♦	♦
4954	Dutchman's Pipe				♦			♦			
4961	Red Chokeberry			♦	♦	♦	♦			♦	
4965	Black Chokeberry	❁		♦	♦	♦	♦			♦	
4990ff	Butterfly Bush	❁					♦				
5038	American Bittersweet						♦	♦			

Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Bundle Size	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
5049	Buttonbush	❁		♦	♦		♦				
5060	Red Flowering Quince	❁					♦			♦	
5069	Ruby Spice Summersweet	❁		♦	♦		♦			♦	
5086	Silky Dogwood	❁		♦			♦			♦	♦
5107	Harry Lauder's Walking Stick								♦		
5116	Royal Purple Smokebush	❁				♦			♦		
5142	Northern Gold Forsythia									♦	
5157	Large Fothergilla	❁		♦	♦					♦	
5168	Annabelle Hydrangea	❁			♦						
5172	Endless Summer Hydrangea				♦					♦	
5175	Masja Hydrangea	❁			♦					♦	
5189ff	Winterberry	❁		♦			♦				
5222	Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle	❁			♦		♦	♦			
5240	Bayberry	❁				♦	♦				
5302ff	Potentilla	some		♦		♦				♦	
5320	Ground Sand Cherry	❁				♦	♦				♦
5350	Rosa rugosa	❁	3			♦	♦			♦	♦
5359	White Rugosa Rose					♦	♦			♦	♦
5369	Blanc Double de Coubert Rose					♦				♦	
5374	Carefree Beauty Rose					♦	♦			♦	
5389	Champlain Rose					♦				♦	♦
5439	Henry Kelsey Rose	❁				♦				♦	
5488	Morden Blush Rose	❁				♦	♦			♦	
5493	Morden Sunrise Rose					♦				♦	
5495	New Dawn Rose					♦				♦	
5534	Therese Bugnet Rose					♦				♦	
5544	William Baffin Rose	❁				♦	♦				
5568	Black Pussy willow	❁		♦							
5612	Billiard Spirea	❁								♦	
5716	Cutleaf Stephanandra	❁									♦
5720	White Snowberry				♦		♦				
5734ff	Lilac	❁				♦			♦		
5930ff	Emerald Triumph Viburnum						♦			♦	
5940	Snowball Viburnum	❁		♦			♦			♦	
5950	Onondaga Viburnum	❁					♦			♦	
5955	Seneca Viburnum	❁					♦			♦	
5975	Tango Weigela	❁							♦	♦	
5985ff	Wisteria	❁						♦			
6291	Jack-in-the-Pulpit				♦						
6361	Marsh Marigold			♦							
6371	Cimicifuga, Bugbane			♦					♦		
6381	Lily of the Valley				♦	♦					♦
6461ff	Ferns			♦	♦						♦
6571ff	Daylily	some							♦		♦
6631	Hibiscus			♦					♦		
6641ff	Hosta	some		♦	♦						♦
6701ff	Siberian Iris	❁		♦							
6731	Lavender	❁				♦					
6851ff	Bee Balm			♦							
6911ff	Tree Peony								♦		
6951	Russian Sage					♦					
7021	Solomon's Seal			♦	♦						
7031	Toad Lily				♦						
7071	Canadian Ginger				♦						♦
7081	Black Cohosh	❁		♦	♦						
7101	Hyssop	❁				♦					
7121	Valerian	❁		♦							

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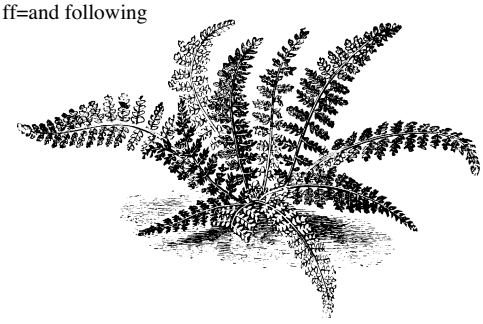

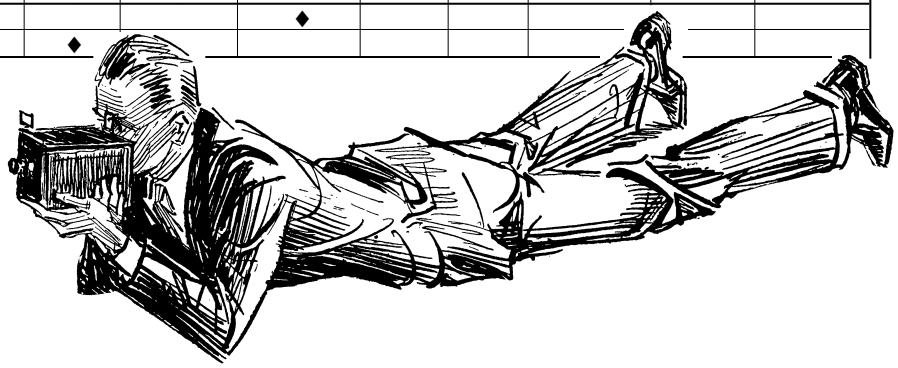

BULLETIN BOARD

FEDCO ON THE WEB

Fedco Trees can be found on the Web at **www.fedcoseeds.com**. You can order trees on-line. Visit us throughout the year for event listings, planting instructions and links to other plant websites. We post color photos of most of the items we offer. During pre-order season you'll find current information on the availability of catalog items.

You are also welcome to **email us** at **trees@fedcoseeds.com**.

To contact MOFGA, (the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association) phone 207-568-4142 or go to www.mofga.org.

Maine Apple Day is on Saturday, October 14, 2006, from 10:00 to 4:00 in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity.

Annual celebration of apples includes:
- cider-making
- tastings
- talks on fruit, wine and cider
- apples for sale
- an apple pie contest

Bring your best specimens for everyone to admire and mystery apples for identification.

For more information contact MOFGA.

2007 Tree Sale

Friday and Saturday April 27 & 28
9:00 until 3:00
for customers with preorders

Friday and Saturday May 4 & 5
9:00 until 3:00
for everyone

Seed Swap and Scion Exchange

Saturday March 24, 2007
12:00 to 4:30
The Maine Tree Crop Alliance, the Maine Seed Saving Network, Fedco and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association will host the seventh annual combined Seed Swap and Scionwood Exchange, in MOFGA's Common Ground Exhibition Hall in Unity.

There will be the usual selection of interesting educational workshops for seed savers and fruit enthusiasts including seed saving and fruit tree grafting. Please bring any seeds, scionwood, or cuttings you have to share freely with others. We supply the labels and tape and markers. T-shirts, books, grafting supplies, rootstocks and sometimes rare seeds will be on sale. Contact MOFGA for more information.

Orchard Ladders

Sturdy lightweight traditionally shaped wooden orchard ladders have wide bottoms for stability and narrow tops for easy handling and placement.
Contact the manufacturer:
Peter Baldwin
207-722-3654
baldwin@acadia.net

Organic Orcharding Class Series

Once again in 2007 MOFGA will be sponsoring a comprehensive series of five classes in organic orcharding. The day-long workshops will be held at a variety of orchards in central Maine. Classes will follow the seasons from March through October, progressing from pruning to grafting to planting to disease and insect management to harvest. The subject matter will be geared towards beginners as well as experienced growers. The format will be primarily hands-on, although there will be plenty of time for discussions and questions. For more information, contact MOFGA.

2008 Cover Contest

Please submit your artwork for possible use as the 2008 Fedco Tree catalog cover.
Theme: edible landscaping or a related subject.
Medium: black and white, ink.
Size: 81/2" x 11 or thereabouts.
Lettering: Does not need to say Fedco Trees 2008 on it, but it's OK if it does.
Award: Winning artist will receive $300 and nationwide exposure.
Deadline: March 2, 2007.
We will select the winner by June 1, 2007. Other submissions will be returned, or we may negotiate to use them as graphics within the catalog or for a future cover. We reserve the right to choose no winner. We also reserve the right to modify the winning entry with lettering or any other changes.

We also are interested in artwork for the catalog itself. If interested, please submit samples or finished work. Prices for catalog graphics are negotiable.

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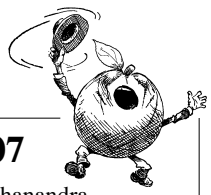
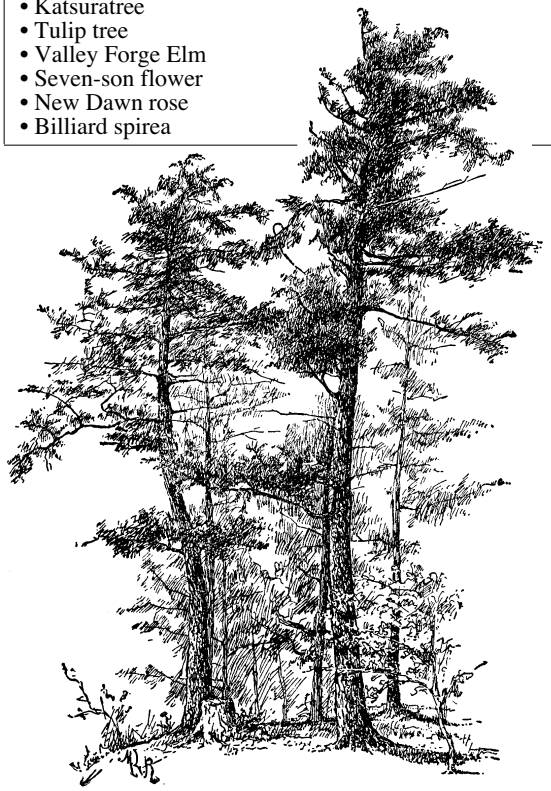


New for 2007

- Esopus Spitzenburg apple
- Cocheco plum
- Earliblue blueberry
- Elliot blueberry
- Petite Jewell grape
- Louise grape
- Sabrevois grape
- Glooscap strawberry
- Katsuratree
- Tulip tree
- Valley Forge Elm
- Seven-son flower
- New Dawn rose
- Billiard spirea
- Stephanandra
- several new lilacs
- copper begonia
- Hibiscus 'Kopper King'
- Hosta 'Eskimo Pie'
- McEwen irises
- 'Primavera' yellow peony
- orange tree peony



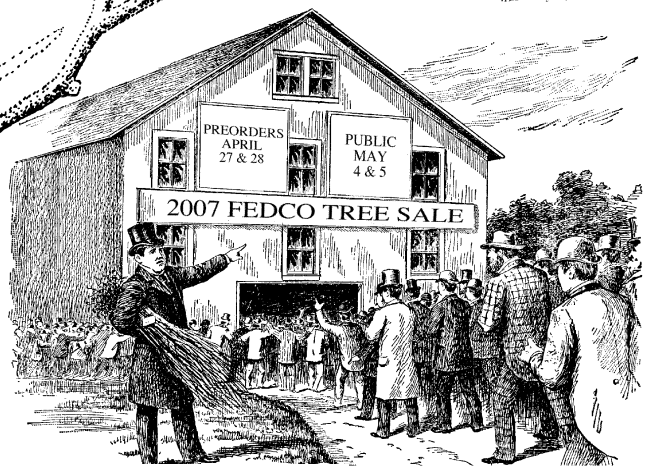
Tools and books are in the Seed Catalog.

Trees & Shrubs
Fruits & Berries
Perennials
for Spring Planting

Ordering Information p. 3
Index inside back cover
Final Order Deadline
March 9, 2007

Save this catalog—
it has planting instructions.

Order Trees Online
www.fedcoseeds.com



original catalog art by
John Bunker, Phoebe Bunker,
Gene Frey, Sue Szwed
& Gabriel Willow

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Join us at MOFGA in Unity for
- Maine Apple Day
Saturday, October 14, 2006
- The Scionwood Exchange
Saturday, March 24, 2007